

Judge turns down release of Guantanamo prisoner

By NEDRA PICKLER,

Associated Press

WASHINGTON – A federal judge declined Tuesday to release a Guantanamo Bay prisoner who was arrested after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks with a suspected terrorist leader but claimed he was the victim of mistaken identity.

U.S. District Judge Richard Leon ruled there is plenty of evidence that 40-year-old Algerian Abdal Razak Ali was part of a fighting force formed by al-Qaida ally and facilitator Abu Zubaydah and can continue to be held at the prison on the U.S. Navy base in Cuba after more than eight years of detention.

Razak Ali's attorney, Candace Gorman, denied that he engaged in any terrorist activity and says witnesses who claim otherwise misidentified him and in some cases were tortured. As Leon was preparing his opinion in the case over the holidays, the government withdrew its reliance on a witness who had identified Razak Ali because of information about the witness' credibility.

Gorman acknowledged her client was captured along with Abu Zubaydah and dozens of others at a guest house in Faisalabad, Pakistan on March 28, 2002, but said her client did not know Abu Zubaydah and only went there to escape an anti-Arab climate in Pakistan after the Sept. 11 attacks.

U.S. officials say Abu Zubaydah was a terrorist affiliated with Al-Qaida and helped plot the USS Cole bombing.

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HAITI: A year later...



Crosses symbolizing those killed in the past Jan. 2010 earthquake stand during a religious ceremony at the Titanyen mass grave site on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011. The religious ceremony is one of many events planned to mark the one-year anniversary of the Jan. 12th magnitude-7.0 quake that killed more than 220,000 people and left millions homeless.

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Speaking in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Monday, Jan. 10, 2011, alongside French President Nicolas Sarkozy, President Barack Obama said the nation is still in shock over the shooting rampage in Arizona that left Rep. Gabrielle Giffords fighting for her life, but he commended the courage of the people on the scene who rushed to help, saying their actions reflect the 'best of America.'

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

By BEN FELLER,

AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON – Under high expectations to provide healing, President Barack Obama on Wednesday will try to convert the horror of the Arizona shootings into a moment of national unity, centering his memorial speech in Tucson on the lives of the victims and the heroism of those who rushed to stop the madness.

In Arizona, Obama to honor memories, speak of hope

The president was crafting his speech on Tuesday, and his aides were reluctant to discuss it even broadly in its unfinished form, other than to say it will emphasize the memories of those lost. Still, Obama's comments since the shooting on Saturday, his experience in dealing with other tragedies and history's guide offer signs about how he is likely to respond to this moment.

At the service on Wednesday night, Obama's main mission will be to honor those who were killed by describing them in personal terms, so the country remembers how they lived, not how they died. He will seek to assure families in grief that the whole country is behind them.

And to those grasping for answers after the assassination attempt on Democratic Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, Obama will likely explore how "we can come together as a stronger nation" in the aftermath of the tragedy, as he put it earlier this week.

What the speech is not likely to be: An examination of divisive partisan rhetoric, or whether it is connected in any way to the rampage that led to killing of six people and the wounding of 14 others. Standing amidst the people of a grieving community, Obama is expected to focus on a memorial, not a commentary on political civility. The president will be joined by Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, Attorney General Eric Holder and Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, another sign of the signal he wants to send: U.S. solidarity.

And back in Washington on Wednesday, in the chamber where Giffords serves, the House will honor her and all the victims of the shooting, and those who sought to help them. □

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Doctor: Giffords breathing on her own after attack



Dr. Peter Rhee, Trauma and Critical Care Emergency Surgery doctor at University Medical Center, describes in more detail the gunshot wound Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., received on Saturday, during a news briefing at UMC, Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011, in Tucson, Ariz.

By ALICIA CHANG,
 AP Science Writer
 TUCSON, Ariz. — U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords was breathing on her own and moving both arms after being shot in the head, doctors said Tuesday. Giffords still has a breathing

(AP Photo/Ross D. Franklin)
 tube to prevent infections such as pneumonia, said her neurosurgeon Dr. Michael Lemole. “I’m happy to say that she’s holding her own,” he said. Giffords, a three-time Democrat, remained in critical condition at Tucson’s

University Medical Center since Saturday when she was shot during a meeting with constituents outside a grocery store.

The attack killed six and injured 14 others. Six remained hospitalized.

Giffords previously raised two fingers with her left hand and gave a thumbs-up when responding to doctors’ verbal commands.

Although her condition has remained virtually unchanged the past few days, doctors were hopeful.

“She has a 101 percent chance of surviving,” said trauma chief Dr. Peter Rhee said. “She will not die. She does not have that permission from me.”

Doctors initially thought the

bullet entered the back of the skull and exited the front, but after reviewing X-rays and brain scans, two outside physicians brought in by Giffords’ medical team now believe that Giffords was likely shot in the front of her head.

Giffords was lucky the bullet did not cross into both sides, or hemispheres, of the brain, which can leave lasting damage, her doctors have said. As doctors continued to monitor Giffords’ recovery, details emerged about the care she received when she was rushed by ambulance to the hospital.

Trauma surgeon Dr. Randall Friese was the first to treat Giffords.

“I immediately went over to her bedside and began to coordinate her care,” he said.

That meant going through a checklist much like what a pilot would do before taking off. Doctors checked to make sure there weren’t any other bullet wounds, put in a breathing tube and assessed her mental state.

Despite not knowing if Giffords could hear him, Friese said he took her hand and told her that she was in the hospital and that doctors would take care of her.

“Then I said, ‘Squeeze my hand, Mrs. Giffords.’ And she did,” recalled Friese.

He asked her several more times to press his hand and she responded. □

GUANTANAMO

Continued from Front Page

Leon said it’s an “obvious and common-sense inference that a terrorist leader like Abu Zubaydah would not tolerate an unknown and untrusted stranger to dwell in a modest, two-story guesthouse for two weeks with himself and ten or so of his senior leadership while they are preparing for their next operation against U.S. and allied forces.”

Leon said their capture together at the house containing al-Qaida literature and a device often used to assemble roadside bombs would be enough alone to continue detaining him. But Leon said prosecutors also offered credible accounts from witnesses that said Razak Ali was receiving training in English

at the guest house and traveled with the Abu Zubaydah fighters from Afghanistan — both claims that the detainee denied.

Most of the evidence in the case was classified and discussed during several days of hearings last month that were closed to the public. But Leon read an unclassified version of his ruling in open court.

Razak Ali was taken to Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan after his capture and transferred to Guantanamo Bay in June 2002, where he has remained since without being charged with a crime.

Although the court documents refer to the detainee as Abdal Razak Ali, one of several names he has used, Leon’s ruling notes that he now says his name is Saeed Bakhouché. □




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Winter storm that shut down the South turns north

By TOM BREEN,
Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — The snow-and-ice storm that has shut down much of the South slowly rolled toward the Northeast on Tuesday, revealing a regional culture clash along the way. Southerners seemed resigned to waiting out such winter headaches as slick roads and paralyzed airports. But people from Ohio to New York, who face up to a foot of snow in their third blast of winter in as many weeks, are already putting pressure on state and local governments to spare them from travel tangles and snow-choked roads.

Across the South, schools and government offices were closed for a second day, and travelers remained stranded at airports and bus stations. Road crews ill-equipped for the winter blast struggled to keep streets clear. Motorists sat for hours on slippery highways. Despite the inconvenience, Southerners confronted the storm's aftermath with patience — and a certain amount of wonder.

Lynn Marentette, a school psychologist who lives south of Charlotte, stayed home after classes were canceled. She's been too busy catching up with friends on Facebook and watching children sled down the hill near her home to touch the stack of paperwork on her desk.

"It is a beautiful, beautiful day out there," she said. "I have some paperwork and some things I've really put off doing, but how often do you have a chance to enjoy the snow?"

Nobody seemed to be complaining much at Lookout

Mountain near Chattanooga, either.

"It's a once-in-a-decade event. There is no reason to prepare for it. It is not a wise spending of funds," said Brent Taylor, an executive for the United Way who was pulling a sled carrying his 5-year-old daughters, Elie and Grace, near Chattanooga.

Taylor said he could not get the family's cars out of the driveway, but they were enjoying the time together.

In Chattanooga, the ice and up to 10 inches of snow was the biggest accumulation in almost two decades.

The city is better equipped than many in the South, where many communities have few snow plows, if any. Hamilton County has 11 salt or brine trucks with blades and three road graders.

"The last time we had this much snow was 1993," said Bill Tittle, the county's emergency management chief. "You can't have that much equipment just sitting around for 18 years."

The South's experience offered a preview of what's in store for states from Ohio to New England, a region already tired of winter after digging out from two storms in recent weeks. Those wintry blasts included a Christmas weekend blizzard that provoked anger in New York City and New Jersey over the slow cleanup.

"It's not that the city can't handle it, it's the leadership," said John Man, 32, a pizza cook in Brooklyn who said that after the Dec. 26 blizzard it took him 45 minutes to walk a little over a mile to his job.

"This time we're only getting a foot, and hopefully they've learned from last time," he

A car carrier lies on its side after several semi tractor trailers were involved in an accident on Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011, on Interstate 65 near Lafayette, Ind. Traffic in the south bound lane was reduced to a crawl as the trucks were pulled back onto the road.

(AP Photo/Journal & Courier, John Terhune)

said.

New York City and its suburbs could get 8 to 14 inches of snow, with reduced visibility and wind gusts up to 35 mph, forecasters said. Long Island could get as much as 15 inches. In New England, forecasters were predicting up to a foot across most of Connecticut and the Boston area.

In Atlanta, trucker Vernon Cook, 67, of Myrtle Beach, S.C., had been sitting idle on an interstate ramp in Atlanta for almost 24 hours in a long line of tractor trailers that couldn't move because of ice on the road.

"I've been a trucker for 46 years and have seen nothing like this," said Cook, who was hauling a load of synthetic rubber from Beaumont, Texas, to Fayetteville, N.C. "I've always been stuck for a little short time, even in Chicago. Georgia DOT is not working, not on this road."

But elsewhere, people seemed accepting, and in some cases cheerful, about the weather canceling plans for school, work and errands.

Atlanta city Councilman Kwanza Hall spent much of Monday sledding and shoveling alongside his neighbors. He said many of his constituents didn't mind staying in for two days during the workweek. □



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Ohio homeless radio man briefly held by LA police



In this photo provided by NBC Universal, Ted Williams, right, and his mother Julia Williams appear on NBC's 'Today' show in New York, on Friday, Jan. 7, 2011. Williams, a homeless man whose silky announcing voice has catapulted him to national fame reunited Thursday with his mother, recorded a commercial for Kraft Macaroni & Cheese and agreed to do voiceover work for MSNBC.

(AP Photo/NBC, Peter Kramer)

LOS ANGELES — Ted Williams, the Ohio homeless man whose smooth radio voice made him an Internet sensation, had to do some quick talking to Los Angeles police. Officers were called when Williams and his daughter got into a heated argument Monday night at the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel & Spa, Officer Catherine Massey said.

"I don't know how loud they were" but the argument at about 9 p.m. led to a disturbance report, Massey said Tuesday. "It was minor. Both parties were angry but there were no signs of visible abuse," Massey said. "They were brought in, calmed down, talked to and released." She said she did not know the nature of the argument. Williams and his daughter,

whom Massey declined to name, were held at the Hollywood police station for less than an hour and they were not arrested, she said. It was not immediately clear whether the two returned to the hotel. Calls to a hotel marketing representative seeking comment were not immediately returned. Williams' manager, Al Battle, declined to comment about or provide details of the incident

but said a statement would be issued soon.

"Once we get all the facts, it'll be out there for everybody to have," he said in a brief phone interview with The Associated Press.

Williams, 53, trained to be a radio announcer but found his life derailed by drugs and alcohol in the 1990s. He has served time in prison for theft and forgery and has been cited with numerous misdemeanors, including drug abuse.

Williams became famous almost overnight after The Columbus Dispatch newspaper posted a web video of him last week. Viewers were enthralled to hear a deep,

honeyed professional voice coming from the shabbily dressed man.

Since then, he has done a TV commercial for Kraft Macaroni & Cheese, appeared on various news shows, recorded voiceover promos for cable news and was offered an announcing job with the Cleveland Cavaliers basketball team.

Although he says he has been clean for more than two years, the recovering addict has acknowledged that it has been challenging dealing with sudden fame. "I wanted a nerve pill yesterday, to be honest with you," he told CBS on Friday. □

Arizona shooting suspect's parents said "devastated"



that Loughner's parents, Amy and Randy, were devastated by the events and the allegations against their son.

"Their son is not Amy and Randy, and people need to understand that. They're devastated. Wouldn't you be if it was your child?" Wayne, with tears in his eyes, told Phoenix's News Channel Three.

"They're hurting bad, she's really bad it's a sad thing, and he told me to tell you guys that when he gets to where he can, he will make a statement himself," he added.

The bloody rampage has fueled a national debate about whether the heated rhetoric seen in recent U.S. political campaigns was a factor in leading to violence. President Barack Obama, who stressed national unity after the shootings, plans to go to Arizona on Wednesday to attend a memorial service for the dead, who include a 9-year-old girl and one of Giffords' young aides. □

TUCSON, Ariz. — The parents of the 22-year-old Arizona man accused of Saturday's shooting rampage are devastated and planning to release a statement, a neighbor told local media on Tuesday.

Jared Lee Loughner appeared in court on Monday on charges including attempting to assassinate Representative Gabrielle Giffords and killing a federal judge, some of the 20 victims of the shootings at a constituent's meeting Giffords was hosting at a local grocery store on Saturday.

Neighbor Wayne Smith said

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Chamber backs repeal vote on healthcare reform

WASHINGTON – Corporate America's biggest lobbying group on Tuesday praised a more business-friendly tone from the White House, but backed Republican efforts to dismantle the Obama administration's healthcare overhaul.

"We see the upcoming House vote as an opportunity for everyone to take a fresh look at healthcare reform," U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Tom Donohue said.

The Republican-led House of Representatives was set to conduct a largely symbolic vote to repeal Obama's signature domestic accomplishment this week, but it was delayed after the shooting of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords.

Donohue, in delivering his annual "State of American Business" address, also pressed for more open markets in China, warned against over-regulation and called for aggressive cuts to government spending.

He said the United States should push its trading partners to open markets. But he added "starting a trade war with one of our fastest-growing export partners is

not the answer."

President Barack Obama is due to meet with Chinese President Hu Jintao on January 19.

Donohue flagged the large U.S. deficit as a major concern, saying the chamber would back strong proposals to cut spending, while acknowledging that the United States has limited ability to reduce the deficit until unemployment eases.

"Our current fiscal path leads to only one destination insolvency," Donohue said. Republicans had promised before the November elections to roll back federal spending to 2008 levels, which would mean a reduction of \$100 billion from the \$1.34 trillion discretionary budget Obama proposed last year. Donohue said the chamber would throw support behind spending cut proposals "even if we don't like all the details."

SOOTHING, FIGHTING Obama has recently ratcheted up efforts to soothe relations with the business community, after alienating corporate America through rhetorical attacks against Wall Street and an agenda of

heavy regulation.

Democrat Obama, who must reduce U.S. unemployment stuck above 9 percent or suffer likely punishment by voters in the 2012 presidential election, hosted a meeting with business chiefs late last year to solicit their aid.

He will meet with the chamber on February 7. A White House spokeswoman said he will discuss the economic recovery, U.S. competitiveness and job creation. Donohue on Tuesday renewed his pledge to work with the Obama administration.

But he also worried aloud that the business community would face additional headwinds as Obama turns to regulatory agencies to push his agenda, adding more costs.

He lamented an "explosion



of new regulatory activity" in recent years.

U.S. regulators have to write dozens of rules to implement the Dodd-Frank financial reform law passed last year. Regulators are also carrying out the healthcare reform law and are tightening oversight of the offshore oil industry. The chamber, along with Business Roundtable, has already filed a lawsuit

seeking to overturn the Securities and Exchange Commission's newly adopted "proxy access" rule that gives shareholders greater power to nominate corporate directors. Donohue said that fight is "far from over." He said the chamber would create a new group to tell Americans about the "massive costs" of excessive regulations. □

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New Jersey city disbands 120-year-old mounted police unit



NEW YORK — The Newark, N.J., police department is disbanding its 120-year-old mounted unit this month, sending its 18 crime-fighting steeds to pasture or other cities' mean streets. "Because of monetary issues we have to do what we have to do," Det.

Josephine Santaniello, a police spokeswoman, said on Tuesday. The mounted unit's 16 police officers are being reassigned to squad cars and foot patrol in Newark, which consistently ranks among the 30 most dangerous cities in America, according to CQ Press, which

tracks crime statistics.

With names like "Chief", "Captain" and "Billy Club," some of the equine law enforcers have been shipped to a farm in Allentown, Pennsylvania, Santaniello said. Four others will join a resurrected mounted force at the Philadelphia Police Department that was eliminated six years ago by budget cuts.

"Kids love 'em but their main function is patrol. You're gaining possibly 10 to 12 feet of visibility, and you're able to see an issue in advance," said Lt. Raymond Evers, spokesman for the Philadelphia Police

Department.

The mounted unit will patrol Fairmont Park, one of the nation's largest urban parks. And, if the Philadelphia Phillies repeat their 2008 World Series win this fall, the unit will maintain order at the victory parade, Evers said. A massive fund-raising effort by the Philadelphia Police Foundation has raised some of the expected \$1.5 million to \$2 million needed to fund two years of operating costs for the mounted unit, Evers said.

The costs are high because the unit's infrastructure barns, exercise areas and equipment was sold and must be entirely rebuilt, Evers said.

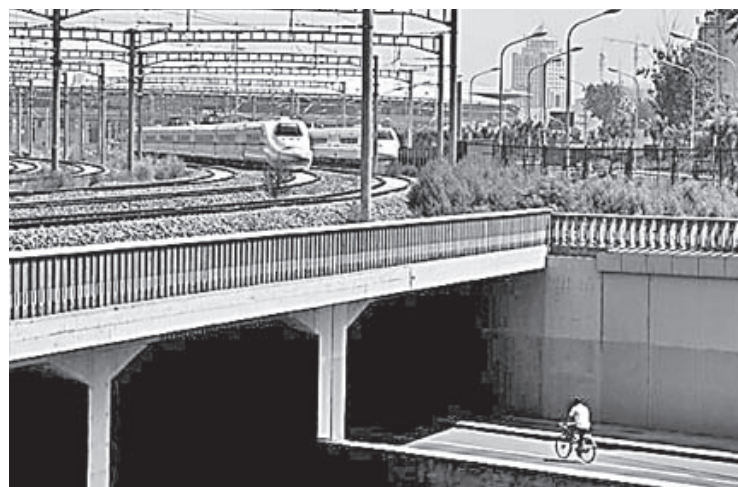
Nearly all of the 24 officers in the new unit, which will also include 24 horses, must be trained and certified as mounted officers, with only two veterans returning, Evers said.

"You do a week of training, you might think twice about it," Evers said. "It is grueling on your body."

Newark's Santaniello said fund-raising efforts are being started and her department hopes it is only a matter of time before the clip clop of the mounted unit is heard again on Newark's streets.

"It's a temporary thing," Santaniello said. "You never want anything to leave." □

Prioritize three U.S. high speed rail corridors: study



NEW YORK — Three U.S. "mega-regions" should get priority for federal dollars in building and improving high-speed rail corridors, a new study said on Tuesday. The Washington to New York corridor ranked first, based on factors such as the density of population, the "knowledge" workforces, which are more inclined to travel, and links to mass transit. This corridor had the top "score" of 20.15, followed by Boston to New York with a 19.87 score. Next was the Great Lakes

megaregion, with Chicago, which has the nation's second densest business district after New York, serving as the hub, according to the study by the America 2050, a nonprofit planning group. The Chicago-Milwaukee corridor scored 19.38, followed by Chicago-Indianapolis at 17.38.

The third megaregion was California and the Southwest, including the fast-growing Arizona area. Six of eight of California's big metro areas already have rail transit systems, and San Francisco

and Los Angeles also have commuter rail.

The Los Angeles-San Diego corridor ranked 19.62, followed by Los Angeles-Riverside link at 19.43, the study said. "Some of the most promising rail corridors for attracting ridership in the United States are in corridors of less than 150 miles," the study said, listing as examples New York-Philadelphia, Los Angeles-San Diego and Chicago-Milwaukee.

Factors that make rail links successful include ones that connect very large cities with medium or smaller towns; these systems have more impact than links between medium size cities, the study said. The nation should concentrate on rail links megaregions, which total 11, because they are where 70 percent of the population and productivity, as measured by regional Gross Domestic Products, are concentrated, it said. □

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Disney Cruise Line Makes Call on Aruba



ORANJESTAD—Guests sailing aboard Disney Cruise Line took in the sites and local culture of Aruba, when the Disney Magic cruise ship made Aruba a Port of Call on Monday. The Disney Magic cruise ship arrived as part of a 15-night repositioning cruise through the Panama Canal, on its way to the Port of Los Angeles. This call on

Aruba also brought along a special maritime exchange ceremony, led by Disney Cruise Line Captain, creating an opportunity for the cast and crew of the Disney Magic to thank the community of Aruba for their hospitality.

“We are delighted to be able to bring our guests to Aruba as part of these special sailings



over the summer,” said Captain Haugen. “The unique culture and history of Aruba, combined with all the fun of a Disney cruise, provides our guests with a very unique vacation experience.”

As is tradition within the cruise industry, Captain Haugen exchanged special plaques with the port officials and community leaders of Aruba onboard the ship. Mickey Mouse was also in attendance for the ceremony exchanges and photos. Before disembarking the ship, community officials were treated to a tour of the ship’s public areas.

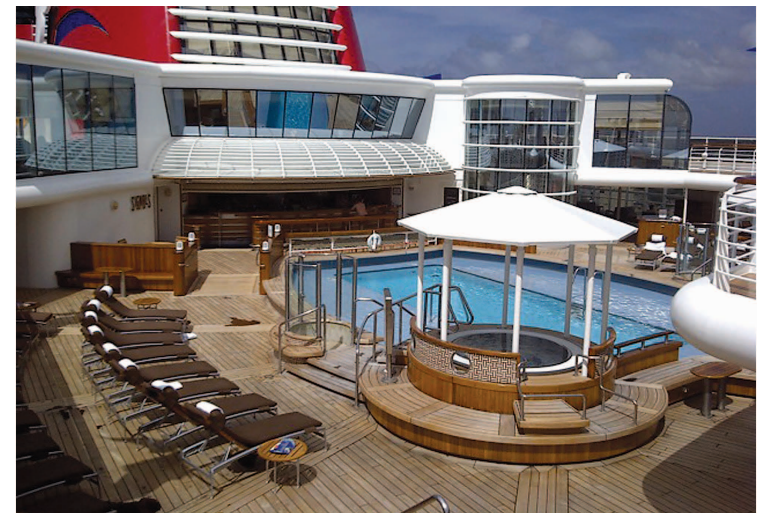
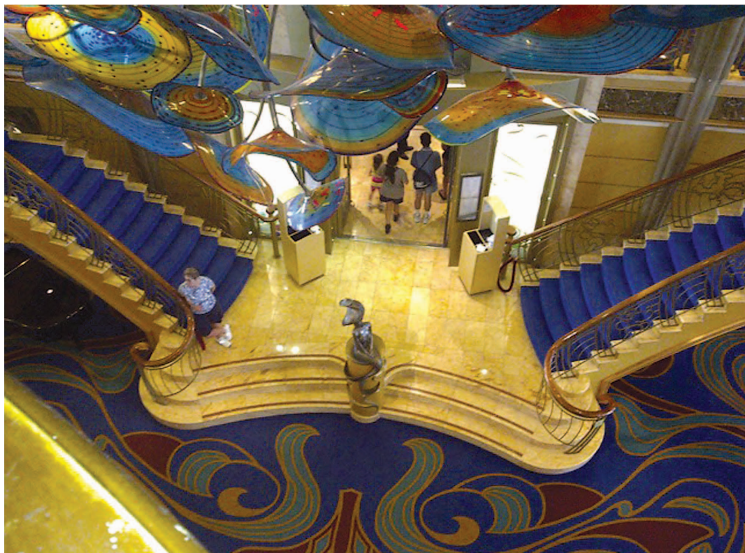
In Aruba, Disney Cruise Line guests were able to enjoy shopping in the picturesque pastel-colored Dutch colonial architecture, snorkeling amongst historic shipwrecks or relaxing on the sun-kissed sands of several famous beaches.

The highly distinctive 2,700-passenger ship Disney Magic departed on Monday just as the sun gently set into the Caribbean Sea. Disney Cruise Line established the family market within the cruise industry when the business launched in 1998.

The first two ships were purpose built for families to reconnect and recharge while creating vacation memories that will last a lifetime. From a theater featuring live musical

spectaculars to a luxurious spa for adults and nearly an entire deck dedicated to children’s activities, the ships truly offer something for everyone. □

Photos by Tito Lacle





ORANJESTAD — Last Sunday morning, local children Rubi Monica Adriyann Pearce and Patrick Junior Pearce were baptized in the name of the Lord at the San Francisco Church in downtown Oranjestad. Rubi's Godmother Ramona and Godfather Richard were there to receive them after the ceremony together



Whether we are baptized as infants or adults, Baptism is the Church's way of celebrating and enacting the embrace of God. □

Photos by Dina Maria

with Patrick Jr.'s Godmother Adriyann and Godfather Joseph. The children were surrounded by family and friends.

For Catholics, the Sacrament of Baptism is the first step in a lifelong journey of commitment and discipleship.



Dinner is always a Genuine Spanish Experience

Casa Tua Barcelona hosts Special Show on Wednesday and Friday



ORANJESTAD - What a surprise!!! This old warehouse transformed into a typical Spanish or Italian town's square, with its gurgling fountain, French lamp-post and lime-washed walls features an open Pizza

Atelier, under a small country hut, covered with old hand-made roof tiles. Opened downtown Oranjestad two years ago, the restaurant dishes reflect this inter-cultural relationship of Spanish, French and

Italian cuisine, all served in a friendly, casual setting. On the menu, a wide variety of Spanish Tapas, appetizers starting at \$2.95, and plentiful Paellas, made daily, filled with mussels, clams, shrimp, pork loin and chicken. The menu also boasts famous Pata Negra ham, Chorizo, and other specialty dry-cured pork sausage. Naturally, the restaurant's whole Grilled Red Snapper, fresh fish fillets and beef tenderloins are all cooked "Ala Plancha," with just a sprinkle of olive oil, representing a healthy Mediterranean lifestyle. Patrons also favor the restaurant irresistible thin-crust pizza, baked according to a secret family recipe, topped with Casa Tua infused spicy olive oil, a signature condiment for Casa Tua restaurants on the Island. To complete this Spanish experience and make it truly unforgettable, Angela Croes, the local Song-Diva,



a native of Spain, a golden recording artist, will perform all Wednesdays and Fridays from 8pm with her daughter and Spanish-Aruban guitar talents. You really don't want to miss such an enchanting voice and spectacular show. From the dramatic Spanish ballads to the catchy warm Flamenco music of the Gypsy Kings, Angela delivers a night of fun and emotion.... Special food combos are available for lunch weekdays,

starting at \$8.95 p/p. Birthday parties? Wedding Rehearsal Dinners? Family Reunions, we love those, and always take very good care of our guests!

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For participating in last Sunday's National Event

Aruba congratulates all Boa Hunters



The island of Aruba hosted a Boa Constrictor capturing event where both locals and tourists participated. This is a very important task for Aruba to complete as there has recently been an over population of Boa Constrictors on the island of Aruba which has alerted the authorities. The biggest

problem with the Boa's is the threat to the island's bird population. The Red Cross Aruba was present during the entire hunt to provide attention to the hunters and Dr Horatio Oduber Hospital First Aid was fully aware of the national event and prepared and available for any

incidents, although in the end there were none. So far all events went 100% perfect and no issues pertaining to injuries. More than half a dozen American tourists joined the second national boa hunt which was organized in the colony and started at 8 a.m. and ended at 11 a.m.

The hunt was a real success, again more than 120 volunteers participated. The atmosphere between the volunteers was absolutely great. As a special treat, Tito Lacle, one of Aruba's journalists, brought along his dog Sheeba for the first time to a boa hunt. He has been training her for the past

two months to become a Boa Hunter. Two ministers, Benny Sevinger and Mike de Meza, supported the event and participated fully. The rains of the past three months have caused the underbrush to grow enormously, causing visual detection to be a great challenge. Notwithstanding this, the volunteers' spirits were high. Within two weeks, the Boa Taskforce will evaluate the past events and inform Minister Sevinger of their findings and propose a line of suggestions. More national boa hunt activities will follow; stay pending. Congratulations to all of the participants and all the endangered birds thank you. □

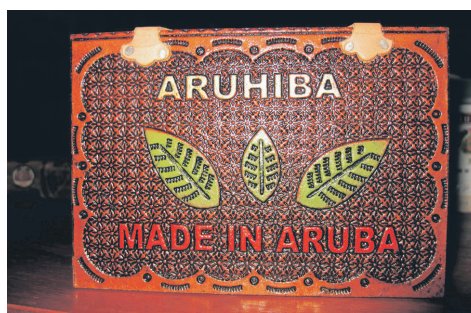
ARUHIWA THE 1 AND ONLY HOMEMADE ARUBAN CIGAR

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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always

had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi's dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars. The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five

cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till 8:30pm. And open on Sunday from 9am to 1pm. At the Tamarijn Hotel open on Monday till Saturday 12pm to 8pm. And on Sunday from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores. Visit our authentic tobacco farm where cigars are handmade.



BUY & RECEIVE ONE ARUBAN CIGAR FREE WITH THIS FLYER

Walk for Donkeys on January 15

ORANJESTAD - The Annual Donkey Walk-a-Thon will be held for the sixth consecutive time this year; it will take place on Saturday, January 15, a week later than usual. The 6-kilometer popular walk is held for runners as well as for people who like to take a leisurely stroll through the Aruban countryside in the company of a few donkeys and lots of enthusiastic inhabitants, visitors, tourists and friends of all ages.

The Walk-a-Thon traditionally starts at five o'clock in the afternoon at the Ayo Rock formation. Participants can register starting at 4 pm; the fee is AWG. 10,-- per person, including a small gift from the Donkey Sanctuary. The entire proceeds of the walk go towards the donkeys, so this is a superb way to support the upkeep of the Aruban donkeys.

Photo shows the 2010 Annual Donkey Walk-a-Thon ☐



2nd International Steelband Festival in the Netherlands



The Steelbandshop Holland is hosting their 2nd International Steelband Festival on the 25th June 2011 in the Netherlands. Read on for an invitation from Digna of the Steelbandshop Holland to join this festival.

Dear Steelband members

and Steel Drum players, On the 25th of June 2011 in conjunction with the local government of Hellevoetsluis and Multi Percussion Hellevoetsluis we have organize the 2nd International Steelband Festival in the Netherlands. Steelbands from the

Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, the UK, France and Aruba will perform at our Festival.

There is also a Play Inn for Steel Drum players. We are registering with the Guinness Book of World Records to see if we can make a new record of the

Worlds largest Steel Drum Play Inn.

You can join us. We play 6 songs on the day. Practice times are 11.00 am, 2.00 pm. The big performance is around 7.30 pm during the festival. Participants of the festival receive a copy of the part they want to play

of all 6 songs to practice at home. Copies of the songs will be available for each participant on the 25th. The Author rights are protected and are following all rules for playing music.

Join us at Worlds largest Play Inn! Sent an e-mail to info@steelbandshop.nl. Possibilities to sleep over are available.

Just bring your air mattress and sleeping bag. Dinner is sponsored. ☐





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HUMAN HINTS

Claim Your Power 1

It is said that we must step up and claim our power. Doesn't it feel empowering to imagine stepping up and claiming your power? But what the heck does it mean to claim our personal power, especially in the face of the relentless forces of our daily routine?

We all have forces in our lives that diminish our personal power. We accept these forces into our lives because they serve us in some way. As our needs change, we no longer require the forces that once served us, yet they can remain in our lives and limit our growth. Often, the obsolete forces continue to drain and distort our energy, even though we no longer gain from them. As we become more aware of our selves, we claim our power, we learn to recognize and eliminate the forces that no longer serve us. As the old energy falls away, we become clear in our purpose and free in our self-expression.

Claiming your personal power means expressing your self more fully, following your True Path more closely. Yet we are so immersed in the forces of our life, we often have no idea who we are. We must learn to differentiate our goals from someone else's. Pursue your goals with all your passion, in your own way. Follow systems that work, and add your personality to your endeavors.

Tomorrow we will further explore what it means to claim your Personal Power.

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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Are American Cars Cool Again?



WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. automakers swept the North American International Auto Show Monday, racking up the coveted “Car of the Year” and “Truck of the Year” awards. The Chevy Volt, GM’s plug-in electric hybrid vehicle, was named Car of the Year and Ford’s Explorer SUV won Truck of the year. The auto press is homing in especially on the Volt’s success, which continues to win award after award. Is this a sign of an American automaker resurgence?

GM Is on a Roll, applauds David Schepp at Daily Finance. He cites the award as “further evidence that General Motors has made significant gains in

rebuilding its business.” The Volt’s success shouldn’t come as a surprise, though, he adds. “Reviews by the automotive press have largely praised the vehicle’s design, and the Volt has taken several other awards already, including Motor Trend magazine’s Car of the Year.”

America Is Back, writes Justin Hyde at Jalopnik. “The Japanese air of invincibility the confidence that the quality, value and styling of their models would always best whatever Detroit could rev in any given year has disappeared in a cloud of beige. This year’s Detroit Auto Show is like a Pearl Harbor in reverse.”

It’s an Aspirational Pick

“Even though the sales aren’t there yet, it’s sort of a chicken-and-egg thing,” says Michelle Krebs, a senior analyst at Edmunds.com speaking with Bloomberg’s Craig Trudell. “We have to go there, but the sales aren’t there yet. Americans still love their SUVs.”

Critics Be Damned, writes Steven Ewing at Autoblog: “Thomas Stephens, GM’s vice chairman of global product operations, said that the Volt represents the soul of the new General Motors, so critics (we’re looking at you, Rush Limbaugh) will probably continue to have lots to complain about in the coming years.”

A Humble Winner “Even though the 2011 Chevy Volt insisted it was an honor to just be nominated, you could just tell she had her eye on that shiny North American International Auto Show car of the year trophy,” gushes Phil Villarreal at The Consumerist. “She had her acceptance speech ready in advance, kept shooting the evil eye at Nissans and Hyundais, and besides--could you believe that gown she wore?” □

Every Picture Tells a Story, Don't It? (Guantánamo Turns 9)

The Nation Today, the Miami Herald debuted a remarkable three-minute video called Guantánamo Iconography:

Narrated by staff reporter Carol Rosenberg, it features photos from those very first hours, nine years ago today, when the Bush administration transferred the first twenty detainees to Camp X-Ray at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, after being assured by its Department of Justice that the location placed detainees outside of US legal jurisdiction. It’s chilling, still, watching orange-clad, goggled, gagged, dehumanized figures forced to kneel en masse, turned away from one another, with their hands cuffed in front of them especially while the Navy combat photographer reminisces on the soundtrack. He didn’t know that his photos would be distributed until he saw them “on CNN or something” (they were marked “for official use only”). At the same time he seems to see, and at the same time not see, the evidence of human rights abuse, even torture, right in his viewfinder.

On the one hand, the photographer, looking at his own images, acknowledges knowing that “people just simply weren’t kept like that.” Yet he believes what the guards tell him what they probably believe themselves. The gloves are to protect the prisoners’ hands from the cold; ditto for the hats. And about those blacked-out

goggles and the loose gags? They were so the prisoners “couldn’t communicate and plan to attack a guard. It made sense to me. I didn’t even see it when I shot it really didn’t think about it when I went back through it and edited at the end of the day. Those photos seemed decently exposed, the composition was good, so we sent them out.” And that is when the photos began to be truly seen. The Pentagon, Rosenberg explains in voiceover, distributed the photos and “the reaction was huge, fierce. People thought they looked like torture.” Here the video’s images turn to protestors dressed as detainees and carrying signs that say “Shut down Guantánamo” and “Say no to torture,” or posing hooded in front of gates topped with chicken wire, plus a front page of the London Daily Mirror that reads, “What in hell are you doing in OUR name, Mr. Blair?”

To this day the photographer, like so many government and military officials who were complicit in Guantánamo indeed, like many Americans still doesn’t get why people reacted so strongly to the pictures. There’s no acknowledgment, indeed there’s no cognizance, even nine years, 775 men, six deaths and only five convictions later, that there is something terribly wrong one might say “inhuman,” or “unconstitutional” about Camp X-Ray. □

Clinton in Yemen to press counterterror efforts

MATTHEW LEE,

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on Tuesday urged Yemen to step up security cooperation with the United States during an unannounced visit to shore up ties with a nation that is fast becoming a major focus of American counterterrorism efforts.

Following the Obama administration's pattern in Afghanistan and Pakistan, Clinton also emphasized that the United States wanted a broader relationship with Yemen beyond the fight against violent extremists. Clinton is the first U.S. secretary of state to visit Yemen in two decades.

"We face a common threat posed by the terrorists and al-Qaida, but our partnership goes beyond counterterrorism," she told reporters after a nearly three-hour meeting with Yemeni President Ali Abdallah

Saleh. "We're focused not just on short-term threats but long-term challenges," such as Yemen's chronic poverty and other economic and social problems, she said.

Under tight security, Clinton landed in the capital of Sanaa, where she pressed Yemeni leaders to crack down further on radicals who have used the country as a base for launching attacks on the U.S. The radical cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, thought to be hiding in Yemen, is suspected of having inspired some of those attacks.

"I want to be frank about the fact that there are terrorists operating from Yemeni territory today — many of whom are not Yemeni, some of whom, I am sorry to say, are Americans," Clinton told students, lawmakers and rights activists at a town hall meeting. "They represent an urgent concern for the United States. They have sought to attack our country."

"Stopping such threats would be a priority for any nation, and it is a priority for the United States. It is also a priority for Yemen," she said. At the same time, Clinton said the U.S. supports efforts to address the underlying causes of extremism: poverty, corruption, social inequality and political divisions that have boiled into an insurgency. She said Yemen must stop the practice of child marriage and enact reforms.

"We seek a unified, stable, democratic and prosperous Yemen where civil society has room to operate, but al-Qaida does not," she said. She noted that the Obama administration had tripled aid to Yemen over the past two years and rebalanced the package so it is not "disproportionally" weighted toward military and security.

In the past five years, U.S. military assistance to Yemen has totaled about \$250 million. In 2010, military and



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, pauses during a media conference with Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, unseen, in Sanaa, Yemen, Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011. Clinton on Tuesday urged Yemen to step up cooperation with the United States as she made an unannounced visit here to shore up and repair damaged ties with a fragile and problematic ally that is fast becoming the main focus of American counterterrorism efforts.

Associated Press

civilian aid was almost evenly split and combined for about \$300 million.

Military aid to Yemen would reach \$250 million in 2011 alone, U.S. officials said, and Clinton said there will be additional development aid. Relations between the two countries were strained late

last year by the disclosure of secret U.S. diplomatic cables by the WikiLeaks website. One cable reported that a senior Yemeni official lied to parliament by denying the U.S. was involved in airstrikes against extremists inside the country.

Saleh did not speak publicly after his lengthy meeting with Clinton, but it appeared to have been cordial. "Yemen is keen on continuing bilateral discussions to address development and security challenges," a Yemeni government statement said, welcoming Clinton's visit.

A senior U.S. official traveling with Clinton said Saleh dwelled on counterterrorism issues, describing his country as a victim of violent extremists and fully committed to the fight against them. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the top-level talks, and called Saleh's comments "encouraging."

Clinton, meanwhile, told Saleh that the U.S. was interested in helping Yemen meet its economic and social challenges, and made it clear the U.S. hoped to see open, credible elections.

The senior U.S. official traveling with Clinton said Saleh expressed surprise at the disclosures in the WikiLeaks cables. But the official said Saleh's comments were gentle in comparison to what the U.S. has heard from other Mideast leaders. □

Assange: WikiLeaks to speed release of leaked documents

JILL LAWLESS

RAPHAEL G. SATTER

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange vowed Tuesday to step up his site's release of secret documents while he fights extradition to Sweden, as his lawyers argued that sending him to Stockholm could land him in Guantanamo Bay or even on U.S. death row.

That claim, regarded by many legal experts as extremely unlikely, is part of a preliminary defense argument released by Assange's attorneys ahead of a court hearing next month.

The Australian computer expert is wanted in Sweden to answer sex-crimes allegations. American officials also are trying to build a criminal case against WikiLeaks, which has published a trove of leaked diplomatic cables and secret U.S. military files on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Assange's lawyers are seeking to link the two issues, claiming the Swedish prosecution is politically motivated — an allegation that Sweden strongly denies.

Assange's defense claims "there is a real risk that, if extradited to Sweden, the U.S. will seek his extradition and/or illegal rendition to the USA, where there will be a real risk of him being detained at Guantanamo Bay or elsewhere."

The document, prepared by Assange's lead lawyer, Geoffrey Robertson, adds that "there is a real risk that he could be made subject to the death penalty" if sent to the United States.

Under European law, suspects cannot be extradited to jurisdictions where they may face the death penalty.

It also is not clear what, if any, charges U.S. authorities could



The founder of secret-spilling website WikiLeaks Julian Assange, left, walks out to face the media flanked by his lawyer Jennifer Robinson after making an appearance at Belmarsh Magistrates' Court in London, Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011. Assange is in court Tuesday for a procedural hearing which lasted for only about 10 minutes, as part of his fight to avoid extradition to Sweden on allegations of sex crimes.

Associated Press

bring against Assange, and unclear how he could be classed as an "unlawful enemy combatant," which could expose him to detention at Guantanamo Bay.

"Mr. Assange would not be sent to Guantanamo," said John Bellinger, a former legal adviser to the U.S. State Department. "He would be prosecuted in U.S. federal court. He would not be treated as an enemy combatant. Those are ridiculous concerns." He added that while Mr. Assange could face "serious charges with a potential prison term, U.S. prosecutors certainly would not seek the death penalty."

British extradition specialist Karen Todner rejected the argument that Assange might be at greater risk of being sent to the United States from Sweden.

"I think he's more likely to face an extradition to the U.S. if he's in Britain," she said. □

WORLD NEWS

10 Tamil Tigers members arrested in Switzerland

BERN, Switzerland (AP) — Swiss prosecutors say 10 members of the Sri Lankan Tamil Tigers group have been arrested in Switzerland.

Prosecutors said Tuesday the arrests were made during searches of 23 premises across the Alpine country. Authorities said they are suspected of money laundering and membership of a criminal organization.

Officials said they believe the suspects for years forced Sri Lankans abroad to contribute several million Swiss francs (dollars) to the Tamil Tiger organization.

The Tamil Tigers lost a 25-year civil war in 2009 after the military crushed separatist forces which claimed to be fighting against decades of discrimination by Sri Lanka's ethnic Sinhalese majority. □

Explosion at recycling plant in England kills 1

LONDON (AP) — Police say one man has died and another has been seriously injured in an explosion at a recycling plant in northern England.

South Yorkshire Police say a waste incinerator exploded at the Sterecycle plant in Rotherham at around 2:40 p.m. Tuesday, blowing a hole in the factory's wall and damaging cars parked across the street.

The police said in a statement that a 42-year-old man died from his injuries after being airlifted to a hospital and a 50-year-old man remains hospitalized in stable condition with serious injuries to his head and body.

Investigators are still trying to determine what caused the explosion.

The plant is the world's first commercial autoclave waste treatment facility, according to the Sterecycle website. □

Haiti: A year after the quake, waiting to rebuild



Haitian President Rene Preval, center, Haiti's first lady Elisabeth Debrosse Preval fourth from left, and Haiti Prime Minister Jean-Max Bellerive, right, carry wreaths for the victims of the Jan. 2010 earthquake during a religious ceremony at the Titanyen mass grave site on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011. The religious ceremony is one of many events planned to mark the one-year anniversary of the Jan. 12th magnitude-7.0 quake that killed more than 220,000 people and left millions homeless.

Associated Press

JONATHAN M. KATZ

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — The man's body lay face down, his white dress shirt shining like wax in the sun, as he was unearthed in the ruins of a Port-au-Prince restaurant a year after the earthquake.

The bodies still being found in the rubble are a sign of how far Haiti must go to recover from a disaster that left the capital in ruins and is estimated to have killed more than 230,000 people.

In the days after the Jan. 12, 2010 disaster, volunteers and hundreds of aid groups flocked in with food, water and first aid that saved countless lives. But the effort to rebuild has been dwarfed by the extent of the need and a lack of leadership — both in Haiti and internationally.

President Rene Preval did not speak publicly for days after the quake, and many observers have criticized him for not spearheading a coherent reconstruction effort, or making the hard policy decisions needed to rebuild.

Still, advocacy groups also blame the Haitian government's weakness on an international community that is not keeping its pledge of support.

"The international community has not done enough to support good governance

and effective leadership in Haiti," the aid group Oxfam said in a recent report. "Aid agencies continue to bypass local and national authorities in the delivery of assistance, while donors are not coordinating their actions or adequately consulting the Haitian people."

Street markets were soon up and running after the quake and Port-au-Prince's traffic is worse than ever. On Tuesday, Preval, his wife and other officials lay flowers at symbolic black crosses marking a mass grave outside the capital where hundreds of thousands of earthquake victims are buried.

But from the barren hillside, the destruction is clearly visible. The slogan "build back better," touted by former President Bill Clinton and others, remains an unfulfilled promise.

Less than 5 percent of the debris has been cleared, leaving enough to fill dump trucks parked bumper to bumper halfway around the world. In the broken building where the dead man was discovered last week, workers hired to clear rubble by hand found two other people's remains.

About a million people remain homeless and neighborhood-sized camps look like permanent shantytowns on the fields and plazas of the capital. A cholera epidemic that erupted outside the quake zone has killed more than 3,600 people, and an electoral crisis between Preval's ruling party and its rivals threatens to break an increasingly fragile political stability. Ericq Pierre, Haiti's representative to the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, said "the problem is that at a certain point the international community gave the impression they could solve the problem quickly. ... I think there was an excess of optimism."

In a statement before Wednesday's anniversary, President Barack Obama praised humanitarian efforts to provide people with food, water and health care but noted that progress in reconstruction has been too slow.

"Too much rubble continues to clog the streets, too many people are still living in tents, and for so many Haitians progress has not come fast enough," Obama said.

He said "Haiti can and must lead the way" but added: "The international community must now fulfill the pledges it has made to ensure a strong and sustained long-term effort."

The slow progress starts with the omnipresent rubble. The U.S.-based RAND organization said donors and the Haitian government are responsible for more not being cleared. Haitian workers were not supplied with boots, gloves and hard hats while heavy equipment has been blocked by customs officials at the border, the report said. The government has also not designated sufficient dumping space.

"Unless rubble is cleared expeditiously, hundreds of thousands of Haitians will still be in tent camps during the 2011 hurricane season," which runs from June through November, the report said. □



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Floods hit Brisbane, Australia's 3rd-largest city

JOHN PYE

KRISTEN GELINEAU

Associated Press

BRISBANE, Australia (AP)

— For weeks, the flooding in eastern Australia has been a slow-motion disaster, with drenching rain devastating wide swaths of farmland and small towns. Now, rivers are rising in Brisbane, the country's third-largest city, forcing people to flee both suburbs and skyscrapers.

Flooding that has unfolded since late November across the waterlogged state of Queensland turned suddenly violent Monday, with a cloudburst sending a raging torrent down the Lockyer Valley west of Brisbane. Hundreds had to be rescued by helicopter Tuesday.

Greg Kowald was driving through the center of the town of Toowoomba when the terrifying wall of water roared through the streets, carrying away cars and people.

"The water was literally leaping, six or 10 feet into the air, through creeks and over bridges and into parks," Kowald, 53, told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "There was nowhere to escape, even if there had been warnings. There was just a sea of water about a kilometer (a half-mile) wide."

The flash flood killed 10 people and left more than 90 missing, Queensland Premier Anna Bligh said Wednesday. That raised to 20 the number of confirmed dead in all the previous weeks from high water.

Helicopters and other emergency vehicles were moving into the worst-hit towns in the valley on Wednesday, and Bligh warned that the death toll would likely rise.

Windows exploded, cars bobbed in the churning brown water and people desperately clung to power poles to survive in Toowoomba. Queensland Police Commissioner Bob Atkinson described it as "an inland instant tsunami."

"What we saw in Toowoomba was the water rise at lightning speed. Mother Nature has unleashed something shocking out of the Toowoomba region

and we've seen it move very quickly down the range," Bligh said.

In Brisbane, 80 miles (130 kilometers) east of Toowoomba, Mayor Campbell Newman said almost 20,000 homes in low-lying areas of the city of about 2 million were expected to be swamped by Thursday, when the river system is expected to crest near the levels of a devastating 1974 flood.

"This is a truly dire set of circumstances," Prime Minister Julia Gillard told Australian Broadcasting Corp. television.

The Brisbane River broke its banks on Tuesday and was continuing its rise Wednesday — partly controlled by a huge dam upstream that has had its floodgates opened because it is brimming after weeks of rain across the state. Some streets and riverside parks were covered with water, though no major flooding was reported early Wednesday.

The city of Ipswich, home to about 15,000 people, was being hit by the water heading Brisbane's way. Floodwaters reached the awnings of stores in the town, where some 3,000 properties were expected to be swamped, Mayor Paul Pisasale said.

To the west, a deluge of up to 6 inches in a half-hour fell over a concentrated area Monday, sending a 26-foot, fast-moving torrent crashing through Toowoomba and smaller towns. The flash flood dropped as quickly as it came, leaving debris and cars piled together.

"There was water coming down everywhere in biblical proportions," Toowoomba council member Joe Ramia told the AP.

When the flood struck, he parked his car and ran for higher ground while watching the carnage below: cars turned into scrap metal and flung into a railway line; giant metal industrial bins tossed about as if made of paper; a man clinging desperately to a power pole as the relentless tide surged around him.

A rescuer pushed through the churning water and yanked the man to safety as Ramia



In this photo provided by the Gympie Regional Council, a road sign is reflected in floodwaters at Gympie, Australia, Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011. Military helicopters searched Tuesday for scores of people missing after a tsunami-like wall of water ripped through an Australian valley, tossing cars like toys in the deadliest episode of a weekslong flood crisis.

Associated Press

watched. Others, including five children, were swept to their deaths.

"You were powerless to do a thing," said Ramia, 63, a lifelong resident of Toowoomba. "While we can rebuild, you can't replace people. ... I've never seen anything like this."

In Brisbane, people fled the central business district and left suburbs for higher ground. Officials warned them not to drive, to conserve drinking water and to prepare for power cuts to large areas of Brisbane and Ipswich as floodwaters rose.

Residents stood in line for up to four hours outside emergency services depots Tuesday to get sandbags, and shoppers jammed markets to stock up on bottled water, milk and fuel. Residents in evacuated suburbs were asked to prepare their homes for high water, then stay with friends or family on higher ground.

"There will be considerable impact on a large number of homes and businesses, and we need people to be taking action now to respond to that situation," said Neil Roberts, emergency services minister for the state.

Brisbane is protected by a large dam built after the 1974 floods. But the reservoir was full, and a water release that would cause low-level flooding was inevitable, Mayor Newman said.

Steph Stewardson, a graphic designer, said there was an exodus from a downtown area around lunchtime Tuesday when the river broke its banks. Stewardson, 40, hopped in her car and crossed the swollen river to collect her dog Boo from day care while waters started covering the boardwalk stretching along its banks. Stewardson took shelter in her house, and plans to stay there — for now.

"I'm about 800 meters (half a mile) from the river on a hill, so I think it's going to be OK," she told the AP.

Search and rescue efforts were hampered by more driving rain, though the bad weather was easing and Bligh, the Queensland premier, said the search would get easier

Wednesday.

In the small community of Forest Hill, the entire population of about 300 was being airlifted to safety in military helicopters, Bligh said.

Flash floods were possible through the week, and officials said rescue efforts were concentrating in towns between Brisbane and Toowoomba, some isolated by floodwaters.

Queensland has been swamped by floods for weeks that covered land the size of France and Germany combined. Entire towns have been swamped, more than 200,000 people affected, and the vital coal industry, ranching and farming have virtually shut down. □

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World No. 1 Wozniacki upset in Sydney

Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark calls for a Hawk-eye replay in her match against Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia during the Sydney International tennis tournament in Sydney, Australia, Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011.

Associated Press
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SPORTS Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com Website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: 582-7800 Wednesday, January 12, 2011

TIGERS WINS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



Auburn's Wes Byrum (18) kicks the game-winning field goal late in the second half of the BCS National Championship NCAA college football game against Oregon Monday, Jan. 10, 2011, in Glendale, Ariz. Auburn won 22-19.

Associated Press
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Players say NFL's 18-game proposal is major hitch

See Page B4

All-time saves leader Trevor Hoffman retires at 43

By BERNIE WILSON

AP Sports Writer

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Baseball's all-time saves leader Trevor Hoffman has thrown his final changeup, deciding at age 43 to retire and return to the San Diego Padres in a front office job. The Beverly Hills Sports Council, which represents Hoffman, confirmed Tuesday that he is done after recording 601 saves in 18 seasons. Hoffman played the bulk of his career with San Diego after being acquired as a rookie from the Florida Marlins in 1993 during the Padres' infamous "Fire Sale" that stripped away most of their high-paid veterans. *Continued on Page B2*





San Diego Padres reliever Trevor Hoffman pitches during a National League baseball game in San Diego, California in this September 20, 2007 file photo.

HOFFMAN

Continued from Page B1

He left San Diego as a free agent following the 2008 season after contract talks abruptly ended, and pitched with the Milwaukee Brewers for two seasons.

MLB.com first reported Hoffman's retirement. Hoffman didn't return messages seeking comment. Hoffman is scheduled to appear at a news conference at Petco Park on Wednesday morning.

REUTERS PHOTO

Padres co-owner Jeff Moorad said Hoffman will spend the next year familiarizing himself with several departments, including baseball operations, and then the two sides will determine what area will be best for him.

"Clearly, Trevor is one of the most significant players that the organization has ever had and we felt it only appropriate for him to return to the Padres family," Moorad told The Associated Press. "We're thrilled that he was agreeable

with coming back."

Moorad said the sides decided against having Hoffman return to the team for one day before retiring.

"Given the seriousness with which Trevor is approaching his next stage of his life, I don't think he or we cared to focus on the theatrics," Moorad said.

The Padres abruptly pulled a contract offer off the table following the 2008 season, leading to a less-than-amicable parting for a player who had become the face of the franchise after Tony Gwynn retired following the 2001 season. The front office has changed dramatically since then.

Although Hoffman struggled toward the end of his career, his home save opportunities were always lively because AC/DC's "Hells Bells" began blaring from the sound system the instant he started jogging in from the bullpen.

Known for his high leg kick, menacing glare and deceptive changeup, Hoffman became the career saves leader when

he notched No. 479 at home on Sept. 24, 2006, breaking the previous mark of 478 by Lee Smith. The following June, Hoffman reached 500, also at home and against the rival Los Angeles Dodgers. He had 552 saves with the Padres.

Then an unknown rookie, Hoffman had two saves for Florida in 1993 before being acquired by the Padres on June 24, 1993, along with two other players for Gary Sheffield and Rich Rodriguez.

Then-general manager Randy Smith said the Padres received "value for value" in the deal. But fans, steamed at the exodus of talent, booed Hoffman during his first several appearances. As he grew into the closer's role, it was clear that Smith had indeed traded for a valuable player.

Hoffman was brilliant in his first season in Milwaukee, converting 37 of 41 save opportunities with a 1.83 ERA.

He also relished his role of no longer being a vocal leader or

face of a franchise like he was all those years in San Diego. He organized conditioning drills and games of football for the relievers before that night's contest and enjoyed riding into Miller Park on a skateboard that he picked up in Wisconsin.

In his first season, Hoffman didn't bother to put a telephone line in the house he rented.

"Things were almost a 180 from what they were at San Diego as far as family commitments, commitments that come from playing and living in the same city and just so many of the normal routines that you build up at home for a long period of time that really all kind of went away," Hoffman told The Associated Press in July 2009, just before he went to the All-Star Game. But after signing a new contract to stay in Milwaukee, last season became a struggle. Hoffman blew five of his first 10 save opportunities and was passed over by rookie John Axford while his ERA ballooned to 13.15 early in the season. □

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NBA Roundup

Houston holds off Boston, 108-102

BOSTON (AP) — Aaron Brooks hit a pair of free throws with 18 seconds left to hold off a furious Boston rally and help the Houston Rockets beat the Celtics 108-102 in the NBA on Monday. Brooks scored 24 points for the Rockets, who ended a five-game losing streak despite playing without leading scorer Kevin Martin. Houston was up 106-94 with 3:13 left before Marquis Daniels made a jumper and then Ray Allen and Paul Pierce followed with 3-pointers to make it a four-point game. Kyle Lowry had 17 points and eight assists and Luis Scola added 12 points and nine rebounds for the Rockets. Allen scored 19 for Boston and Daniels had season highs of 19 points and seven rebounds for the Celtics, who have lost two straight without star Kevin Garnett. Garnett has been out since late December with a strained right calf, but the team hopes he will be able to return against Sacramento on Wednesday.

Bobcats 96, Grizzlies 82
In Charlotte, North Carolina, Stephen Jackson scored 27 points and the Bobcats stayed hot under new coach Paul Silas with a victory over listless Memphis.

A crowd of about 1,000 fans braved a snowstorm that shut down much of the city to watch the Bobcats move to 5-2 since former coach Larry Brown was fired.

D.J. Augustin added 18 points and nine assists and Matt Carroll scored 12 points for Charlotte.

Zach Randolph had 15 points and 15 rebounds for the Grizzlies, who lost their second straight. Memphis

missed 33 of its first 42 shots to fall behind by 16 points in the second quarter.

At Chicago, Derrick Rose scored 29 points and Carlos Boozer added 27 points and 11 rebounds to rally Chicago past Detroit.

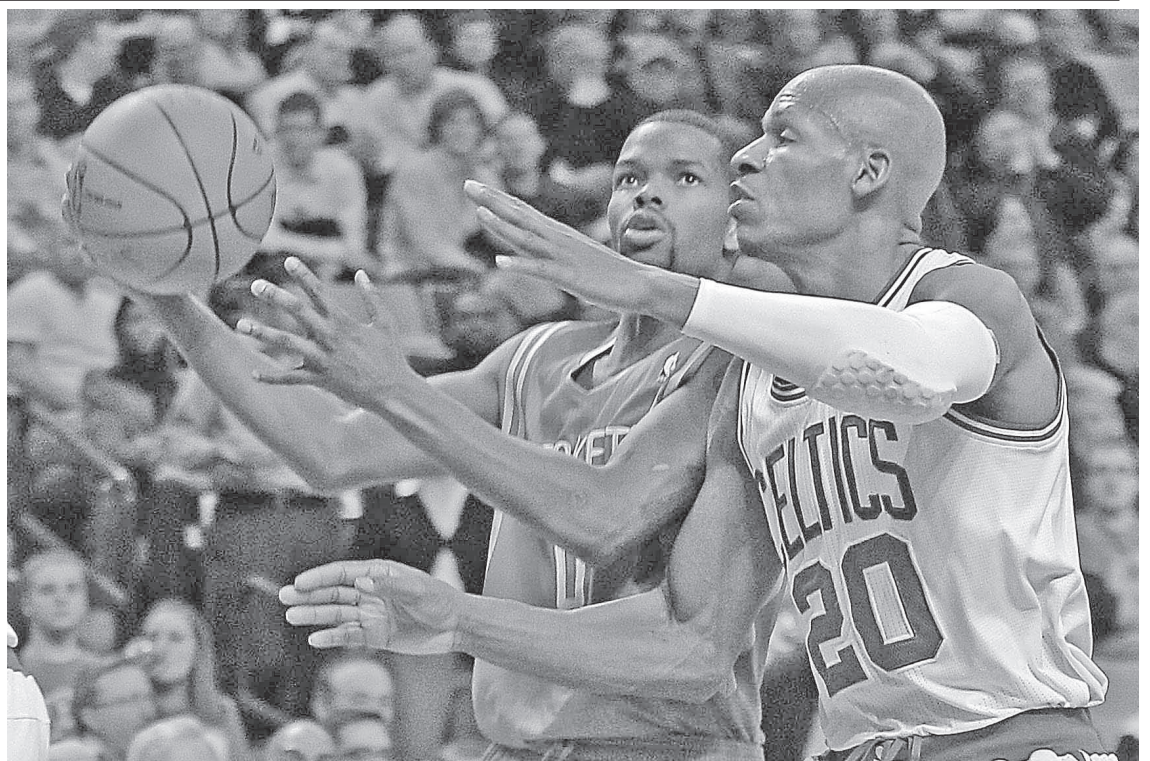
Luol Deng added 17 points and eight rebounds for the Bulls, who have won seven straight home games.

The Bulls erased Detroit's 12-point halftime lead midway through the third quarter behind Boozer. He scored nine quick points to even the score at 61 with 4:54 left in the quarter.

Tayshaun Prince scored 15 points and Austin Daye added 14 for the struggling Pistons, who fell to 3-17 on the road.

Pistons guard Richard Hamilton played, despite his name circulating in a blockbuster three-team trade centering around Carmelo Anthony. The reported deal would reunite Chauncey Billups and Hamilton in New Jersey along with Anthony. Hamilton finished with two points off the bench, shooting 0-for-5 from the field.

In other NBA games it was Charlotte 96, Memphis 82; Houston 108, Boston 102; and Chicago 95, Detroit 82.



Boston Celtics guard Ray Allen, right, tries to stop Houston Rockets guard Aaron Brooks, left, on a drive to the basket during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Boston, Monday, Jan. 10, 2011. Brooks had 24 points as the Rockets beat the Celtics 108-102.

Associated Press

APNewsBreak: IOC and USOC begin revenue talks

By STEPHEN WILSON
AP Sports Writer

LAUSANNE, Switzerland — U.S. and international Olympic officials opened talks Tuesday on a new revenue-sharing agreement that could resolve their long-running financial rift. A delegation of U.S. Olympic Committee leaders held a first formal meeting with International Olympic Committee officials in Lausanne to begin negotiations on a long-term deal covering the split of sponsorship and television money. The new formula would take effect in 2020.

The discussions were held at

IOC headquarters and lasted about an hour. They were meant to be secret but The Associated Press learned of the talks and confirmed them with both sides.

“We had a good, constructive dialogue on the overall allocation of resources,” USOC chief executive Scott Blackmun told the AP. “We agreed to get together again.” Blackmun declined to give details. No date has been set for the next round of talks. Currently, the USOC receives a 20 percent share of global sponsorship revenue and a 12.75 percent share of U.S. broadcast rights deals —

figures many international officials feel is excessive.

International resentment over the USOC's refusal to make financial concessions was considered a key factor in Chicago's humiliating first-round loss in the IOC vote in 2009 for the 2016 Olympics. That followed New York's defeat in the race for the 2012 Games.

Representing the USOC at Tuesday's meeting were chairman Larry Probst, Blackmun and business executive Fraser Bullock, a former leader of the Salt Lake City Olympic organizing committee.

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daily: 4:45 **PG**
matinee: 12:00 - 2:30 **PG**
late show:

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daily: 7:00 - 9:30 **PG-13**
matinee: 11:45 **PG-13**
late show:

GULLIVER'S TRAVEL
daily: 5:00 - 7:00 - 9:00 **PG**
matinee: 12:30 - 2:45 **PG**
late show: 11:00

LITTLE FOCKERS
daily: 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15 **PG-13**
matinee: 12:00 - 2:30 **PG-13**
late show: 11:30

HOW DO YOU KNOW
daily: 5:45 **PG-13**
matinee: 12:15 - 3:00 **PG-13**
late show:

NO PROBLEM
daily: 8:30 **PG-13**
matinee: **PG-13**
late show:

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HEREAFTER
daily: 5:30 - 8:15 **NEW**
matinee: 12:00 - 2:45 **PG-13**
late show: 11:00

TRUE GRIT
daily: 4:30 - 7:00 - 9:45 **NEW**
matinee: 2:00 **PG-13**
late show: 12:15

GULLIVER'S TRAVEL
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matinee: 12:30 - 2:30 **PG**
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THE TOURIST
daily: 6:30 - 9:00 **PG-13**
matinee: 11:30 **PG-13**
late show:

HOW DO YOU KNOW
daily: 6:00 - 8:45 **PG-13**
matinee: 12:15 - 3:00 **PG-13**
late show: 11:30

LITTLE FOCKERS
daily: 5:30 - 7:45 - 10:00 **PG-13**
matinee: 12:30 - 3:00 **PG-13**
late show: 12:15

TANGLED
daily: 5:00 **PG**
matinee: 12:15 - 2:45 **PG**
late show:

SP = subtítulos en Español

Matinee: sat - sun | Late show: fri & sat



Anaheim's Hiller is 1st Swiss NHL All-Star goalie

GREG BEACHAM,

AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM, California (AP) — Jonas Hiller has become the first Swiss goalie to make an NHL All-Star team.

Hiller and Ducks right wing Corey Perry have been selected for the All-Star game in Raleigh, North Carolina, on Jan. 30. Hiller is also the the only netminder from the Western Conference chosen this year.

"I don't know who picked that, or if there's a reason behind it, but I'm excited to go from the West," Hiller said after Tuesday's practice at Honda Center.

Hiller has tirelessly kept the Ducks competitive this season, ranking second in the NHL with 21 wins while facing more shots and making more saves and appearances than any goalie. He's third in the league in save percentage, and he heads into Wednesday's home game against St. Louis riding back-to-back shutouts of Columbus and San Jose.

"Our goalie has been probably the strongest part of our



Anaheim Ducks goalie Jonas Hiller, of Switzerland, looks to stop a shot in the first period of an NHL hockey game with the Columbus Blue Jackets in Anaheim, Calif., Friday, Jan. 7, 2011.

Associated Press

hockey club from Day One," coach Randy Carlyle said. "He has played huge, huge minutes for us, and he saw a lot of pucks early. I don't know if that got him warmed up for the season, but he's done a great job."

Hiller also is just the

second NHL All-Star from Switzerland, following defenseman Mark Streit of the New York Islanders in 2009. Not bad for a goalie who wasn't drafted by an NHL club and spent several years in the top Swiss league before catching North American

scouts' attention while playing alongside Joe Thornton and Rick Nash with HC Davos during the NHL lockout.

Hiller's roommate on the road is Perry, who leads the Ducks with 21 goals and 45 points, ranking ninth in the NHL in scoring. Perry, who made

his only other All-Star team in 2008, also scored during Canada's win over the U.S. in the gold-medal game at the Vancouver Olympics.

"It's exciting to be a part of it, and it will be a fun week," Perry said. "It's an honor."

Perry also isn't worried about the possibility of playing against his roommate under this year's All-Star game format. The captains will choose teams earlier in the All-Star weekend.

"We do that all the time in practice, and this game isn't a practice, but it's not a real game, either," Perry said.

Captain Ryan Getzlaf, a two-time All-Star, wasn't chosen for the game while recovering from broken bones in his face. Getzlaf had 37 points in 40 games before a deflected puck hit him in the forehead, resulting in injuries likely to keep him out until early February.

Teemu Selanne also wasn't chosen despite scoring 37 points in 36 games this season, but the 40-year-old Finnish Flash is grateful to have the long weekend off. □

Players say NFL's 18-game proposal is major hitch

By HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Pro Football Writer

WASHINGTON — Concerns about injuries and insurance make the league's push to switch to an 18-game regular season a major sticking point in negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement, according to two NFL players who are members of the union's executive committee.

The NFL wants to add two games to the current 16-game format for the regular season, and eliminate two of four preseason games, saying fans would prefer that and more revenue could be generated.

"To me, right now, as things stand, 18 games, the way it's being proposed, is completely unacceptable. ... I see more and more players get injured every season," Cleveland Browns linebacker Scott Fujita said Tuesday on a media conference call arranged by the union. "There are so many things now — with player health and safety, and the future of us and our families — that aren't even being considered. And for us, it's disappointing," Fujita said. "It feels like a slap in the face."

Union spokesman George Atallah said Tuesday that 352 active players went on injured reserve at some point during this season, each missing an average of 9 1/2 games.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said "a few hundred" players out of the nearly 2,600 that go through the system each season — 80 with each of 32 teams

entering camp — go on injured reserve.

"That number would include undrafted rookies put on IR for the season and players with relatively minor injuries who then reach injury settlements with their teams and are released," Aiello wrote in an e-mail. "We do not know how the union calculated games lost."

Both Fujita and Baltimore Ravens cornerback Domonique Foxworth, the other player participating in Tuesday's call, went on IR in 2010.

"We put our bodies on the line and produce a lot of revenue and we get five years" of post-retirement health insurance," said Foxworth, who missed all season after tearing his right knee during an orientation practice the day before training camp. "And then they want to tack on two more games ... which is just going to multiply the injuries and the ailments that we're going to see after we go into our 40s, 50s, 60s — 70s, if we're lucky. ... We're not willing to budge on health and safety, and we'd like to gain some more ground in ways we can protect former players and current players."

Right around the time the call was beginning, the NFL announced the launch of <http://www.NFLHealthandSafety.com>, a website the league touted as "providing information on the various ways" it's addressing those issues.

The league's lead negotiator, Jeff Pash, said last month "it is realistically an easier agreement to

reach in the context of an 18-game regular season." But Fujita said Tuesday: "The 18-game discussion is not even worth having at this point, because there's nothing on the table from their end that makes any one player consider playing 18 games."

The current CBA expires in March and the union long has said it expects NFL owners to impose a lockout, affecting the 2011 season. The NFL has not missed games because of labor problems since 1987, when the players went on strike.

Asked if he thinks a lockout is inevitable this time, Fujita replied: "It certainly looks that way to me."

Among other issues discussed on Tuesday's call: Fujita took a swipe at Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones for his comments during an interview with CBS last month. In a portion of the interview posted on the Internet, Jones is asked whether he thinks a lockout "might be disastrous for the game?" Jones' response: "No, I do not. But I know that the sentiment is not to have a lockout."

Fujita's take: "For him to say something like that, to me, is one of the more irresponsible things I've heard through this whole process."

Fujita said he gets the sense owners might not be unified, because some want to get a deal done, while others — and he cited Jones as an example — "are fine with letting this thing run down to at least the 11th hour and try to squeeze the players into accepting a deal that's not fair to us." □

NHL Roundup

Boston mounts frantic rally to beat Penguins

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Mark Recchi scored late in the third quarter to cap a frantic Boston rally in the final 3½ minutes as the Bruins beat the Sidney Crosby-less Penguins 4-2 in the NHL on Monday. Boston trailed 2-0 when Zdeno Chara scored a power-play goal on slap shot from the right point to start the rally at 16:37, and Brad Marchand scored 12 seconds later to level the game.

After Jordan Staal drew a holding penalty, Recchi gave the Bruins a 3-2 lead with his 200th power-play goal. Gregory Campbell then added an empty-netter in the final moments.

It was the second dramatic comeback for the Bruins in Pittsburgh this season. Boston trailed 4-2 on Nov. 10 before scoring five goals in the third to win 7-4.

Pittsburgh is 0-2-1 without Crosby, who is out with a concussion. The timing of his return is uncertain.

Coyotes 4, Blues 3

In St. Louis, Taylor Pyatt scored the go-ahead goal on a wraparound with 3:12 to go in Phoenix's victory over St. Louis.

Kyle Turris scored a goal

to level the game at 3-3 and assisted on Pyatt's 10th goal of the season, a play that caught Jaroslav Halak and the St. Louis defense off guard. Matt D'Agostini and Brad Winchester scored in a 20-second span early in the third to give St. Louis a 3-2 lead.

Winchester, who plays on the checking line, has scored in three straight games for the first time in his career.

Stempniak ended a 15-game goal drought for the Coyotes, who have won three of four.

Avalanche 5, Red Wings 4

In Denver, Matt Duchene scored twice in Colorado's four-goal first period and Peter Budaj stopped 26 shots, helping the Avalanche halt Detroit's three-game winning streak.

Paul Stastny, Kevin Porter and David Jones added goals for the Avalanche.

Colorado got off to a roaring start, sending Detroit goalie Jimmy Howard to the bench 14:15 in after he surrendered four goals on 10 shots. Howard was replaced by Joey MacDonald, who allowed only one goal the rest of the way on 16 shots.

Jan Mursak netted his first



Boston Bruins' Gregory Campbell, second from left, celebrates with Zdeno Chara (33), Dennis Seidenberg, center, and Blake Wheeler (26) after scoring an empty-net goal against the Pittsburgh Penguins in the third period of an NHL hockey game in Pittsburgh on Monday, Jan. 10, 2011. The Bruins won 4-2.

NHL goal, and Brian Rafalski, Henrik Zetterberg and Tomas Holmstrom also scored for the Red Wings.

Maple Leafs 3, Kings 2

In Los Angeles, Nikolai Kulemin scored the go-ahead goal with 15:02 to play and James Reimer made 30 saves as Toronto won its fourth straight road game by topping

spiraling Los Angeles.

Phil Kessel and Darryl Boyce scored 34 seconds apart in the second period for the Maple Leafs.

Wayne Simmonds and Michal Handzus scored for the Kings, who have lost six of seven — including five of six on their current eight-game homestand.

Jonathan Quick stopped 25 shots, but the Kings missed several chances to level the game in the final minutes, including a 6-on-4 advantage in the final 1:42.

In other NHL games it Boston 4, Pittsburgh 2; Phoenix 4, St. Louis 3; Colorado 5, Detroit 4; and Toronto 3, Los Angeles 2. □

Bellucci advances in Auckland

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP) — Thomaz Bellucci recovered from a mid-match slump to beat American qualifier Michael Russell 6-4, 6-7 (4), 7-5 in the first round of the Heineken Open tennis tournament.

Bellucci, ranked 31 and the No. 7 seed, led 6-4, 5-3 before wavering, dropping the second set and falling behind 3-0 in the third in a hard-hitting duel with the 103-ranked Russell.

The 32-year-old American won seven straight games to capture the second set in a tiebreaker and to lead by two service breaks in the third. Bellucci had made 32 unforced errors by the third game of the final set but he then lifted his game, relying on his swinging left-handed serve which had been strong in the first set and at the start of the second.

The Brazilian broke Russell in the fourth game of the deciding set and again two games later to level the set at 3-3. He then gained the vital break in the 12th and final game but needed three match points to close out the match in 2 hours, 50 minutes.

Both players contended with bad line calls on crucial points, Bellucci on his first match point

and Russell on break point in the sixth game of the deciding set.

"It was a tough match," said Bellucci, who now faces former Tommy Robredo of Spain in the second round. "I was 3-0 down in the last set so I'm just very happy to be there in the second round."

French qualifier Adrian Mannarino, playing his eighth match of the past two weeks, beat fifth-seeded Juan Monaco of Argentina 6-4, 6-3.

Mannarino lost to American Mardy Fish in the first round at last week's Brisbane International after winning three matches in qualifying to reach the main draw. He narrowly missed the main draw in Auckland and was forced to play through three more qualifying matches to earn his place opposite Monaco on Tuesday.

Match play may have been an advantage to the 22-year-old Frenchman who looked sharper than Monaco, who was playing his first match of the year.

"I felt I played really good today, even if the level of the match wasn't so good because of the conditions," Mannarino said. □



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Marta has 5 FIFA player awards, but no club in U.S.



Marta of Brazil reacts after winning the FIFA Women's World Player of the Year award during a ceremony in Zurich, Switzerland, Monday, Jan. 10, 2011.

GRAHAM DUNBAR

AP Sports Writer

ZURICH (AP) — Superstar forward Marta is the five-time women's world player of the year without a club to call her own. The 24-year-old Brazilian dominated voting in the FIFA award announced Monday, after her stellar season with United States Women's Professional Soccer League champion FC Gold Pride. But the Bay Area club folded in November and she has no idea where she'll land next. "I don't know exactly where I'm going to go," Marta told The Associated Press through

a translator, after tearfully accepting her fifth straight FIFA world player accolade. "I have a contract and I have to stay. I'm going to see with the agents what happens from now on. By February or March I should have a better idea." Uncertainty is not new for Marta, who has fulfilled all expectations to be the league's signature player. Exactly two years ago, she used a press conference in Zurich for the FIFA award candidates to announce she was coming to America. Marta moved from Sweden to sign a three-year deal with the Los Angeles Sol that helped launch the WPS. She was league MVP and top scorer for a team that lost the championship game, then its backers. Marta transferred to Santa

Associated Press

Clara-based Gold Pride, and swept the individual honors again for a title-winning side which then went out of business. "It's a little stressful to change from city to city every time," Marta acknowledged, adding she had enjoyed her football. "It was a very good season with the team and unfortunately it couldn't keep going. If we could, we would certainly have won more titles. "I love the USA. If I can go back it's a good thing." Stability can't come soon enough in a World Cup year. Marta also helped Brazil win the 2010 South American Championship and secure its place at the 16-nation tournament kicking off in Germany on June 26. The 2007 runner-up is seeded in a group with Australia,

Norway and Equatorial Guinea. "This is a special year and we're ready. It looks good," Marta said at a press conference Monday, flanked by two star players from the host nation and defending champion. Marta easily won the year's first Brazil vs. Germany encounter. She got 38.20 per cent of the world player votes, beating three-time winner Birgit Prinz who got 15.18 per cent and newcomer Lira Bajramaj with almost 10 per cent. Votes were cast by coaches and captains of national teams, plus international journalists. Marta couldn't quite keep her promise to keep emotions under control during her acceptance speech. "It's almost too good to be true," she said. □

Spain lashes out at Blatter over Messi's win

MADRID (AP) — The Spanish media lashed out at FIFA President Sepp Blatter on Tuesday after Lionel Messi won the Ballon d'Or ahead of Barcelona teammates Andres Iniesta and Xavi Hernandez, who played for Spain when it won the World Cup. Spanish daily AS said "Spain is very angry," and Marca has "Two Giants and one Anti-Spaniard" splashed across its front page in reference to Messi, coach of the year Jose Mourinho and Blatter. ABC newspaper wrote: "FIFA scorns the world champions." Messi won the FIFA award for a

second straight year on Monday, the Argentina forward's standout performances for Barcelona outweighing a disappointing World Cup, where Iniesta and Xavi helped lead the European champions to their first world championship. Iniesta scored the winning goal in July's 1-0 extra-time win against the Netherlands at Soccer City in Johannesburg, South Africa, while Xavi has been labeled the brains behind the team's play. Despite six Spanish players being included in FIFA's 2010 world all-star

team, Marca said "without a doubt the biggest loser on this night was Spanish football." "(Blatter) had the chance to once again show his ill-will toward everything Spanish," Marca wrote. "Only a few days ago he left us without the chance to organize the World Cup by instead opting for Russia and yesterday he left us without a prize that Spanish football deserved." Russia beat bids from Spain-Portugal, Belgium-Netherlands and England for the right to host the 2018 finals in a vote last month. □

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No.1 Auburn wins college football national title

EDDIE PELLIS

AP National Writer

GLENDAL, Arizona (AP) — Michael Dyer rushed for 53 yards on two spectacular plays with time running down to help No. 1 Auburn rally for a 22-19 win over No. 2 Oregon and capture the college football national championship on Monday.

After Oregon had leveled the game at 19, Heisman Trophy winner Cam Newton and Auburn came right back with a 73-yard drive, highlighted by a 37-yard run by the freshman Dyer. First he rolled over an Oregon tackler and, with most of the players thinking the play was over around midfield, scooted another 30 yards to the 23-yard line.

Three plays later, Dyer ran 16 yards to push the ball to the 1-yard-line and set up Wes Byrum's field goal with no time left.

It was Byrum's sixth career game-winning field goal — the one that capped off a perfect, 14-0 season and brought the title back to Auburn University for the first time since 1957.

"Fifty-three years, baby," coach Gene Chizik said to the cheering crowd. "This is for you. War Eagle!"

A few hours after the game, Auburn won The Associated Press national title as well, earning 56 of the 59 first-place votes. TCU was second and Oregon came in third.

Dyer was the star of a classic sequence that closed out a wild finish — five crazy minutes of football that made up for the first 55, which were more of a bruising battle than the offensive masterpiece everyone had predicted.

The madness began when Casey Matthews knocked the ball from Newton's hands while he was trying to ice a 19-11 lead.

Oregon's offense, shut down by the Auburn defense for most of the night, moved 45 yards over the next 2:17 before Darron Thomas tossed a shovel pass to LaMichael James for a touchdown. Thomas then hit Jeff Maehl for the 2-point conversion with 2:33 left to even the score.

When Auburn got the ball back, Dyer took the handoff from Newton and ran off right tackle for what looked like a 6- or 7-yard gain. But he never heard a whistle and wasn't sure his knee had hit the ground, so he popped up and kept going.

Almost everyone on the field had stopped playing, but the referee never blew the play dead. Dyer made it to the Oregon 23. An official's review ensued and the replay showed that, indeed, his knee had never touched the turf.

"Really, it was going through my mind to get the first down, hold onto the ball," Dyer said. "And the time being tackled,



Auburn head coach Gene Chizik arrives at a news conference after the BCS National Championship NCAA college football game Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011, in Scottsdale, Ariz. Auburn beat Oregon 22-19 to capture the championship.

Associated Press

my knee wasn't down ... I didn't hear a whistle, not yet, so I was kind of, like, looking, like, what's going on?"

Eddie Pleasant, the Oregon defensive back who almost made the tackle, was as shocked as anyone.

"It hurts, you know," he said. "It's not like he broke free and did some spectacular things. He was tackled. Everybody on the side of the defense stopped. He stopped and the coach told him to keep running

and he ran." Dyer finished with 143 yards and was named Offensive Player of the Game — no small feat considering he had the Heisman Trophy winner, Newton, playing well on the same offense.

Newton threw for 265 yards and two touchdowns and ran for 64 yards, most in short, punishing bites.

It was a good performance, but not spectacular — par for the course in a game that was projected as a 74-point

touchdown fest by the oddsmakers who set the over-under.

The Ducks got only 49 yards rushing from James and an offense that had been held under 37 points only once all year managed just the two touchdowns.

The last one came on a simple shovel pass from Thomas, who finished with 363 yards — 81 of which came on a long pass to Maehl that set up the first touchdown. □

Michigan hires Hoke, not Harbaugh or Miles

By LARRY LAGE

AP Sports Writer

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Brady Hoke has at least a few things in common with the late, great Bo Schembechler.

They both hail from the Buckeye state, didn't attend Michigan and climbed the coaching ladder before getting a shot to lead the Wolverines. Schembechler restored Michigan as a national power after being welcomed with "Bo Who?" headlines.

Hoke? Despite successful head coaching stints at San Diego State and Ball State, the former Michigan assistant might get a lukewarm reception, too, after fans clamored to bring Jim

Harbaugh or Les Miles back to their alma mater.

Michigan athletic director Dave Brandon picked Hoke as his new football coach Tuesday, insisting he was Plan A and not a backup option after Harbaugh left Stanford for the San Francisco 49ers and Miles stayed at LSU.

"The job was never offered to them," Brandon said in an interview with The Associated Press Tuesday after informing the team of his decision. "We did have different discussions with them that were helpful and positive."

Harbaugh was the popular pick when Brandon bought out the last three seasons of

Rich Rodriguez's three-year contract last week. When Harbaugh went to the NFL, Miles appeared to be a logical choice to return Michigan to the glory days.

Instead, it will be Hoke. And he knows his way around Ann Arbor, too.

"Brady Hoke understands Michigan and he wanted this job because it has been dream job," Brandon told The AP. "We won't have to teach him the words to 'The Victors' and I believe our players will respond to him because I got 100 percent positive feedback from anybody who played for him here or since he left Michigan."

Green Bay Packers cornerback Charles Woodson is one of the many former Wolverines, including New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, who rave about Hoke. "I'm excited for Brady Hoke and even more excited for Michigan," Woodson, who won the Heisman Trophy and 1997 national championship at Michigan, wrote in a text message. "I'm glad this process is over and we can begin to restore the tradition and respect that was once Michigan."

Former Michigan coach Lloyd Carr, who retired after the 2007 season, also endorsed the hiring of his former assistant.



This Nov. 17, 2010, file photo shows San Diego State coach Brady Hoke watching his team during their victory over UNLV during an NCAA college football game, in San Diego.

Associated Press

"Brady Hoke is a great choice for Michigan," Carr wrote in a text message. □



Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia plays a shot in her match against Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark at the Sydney International Tennis Tournament in Sydney, Australia, Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011.
Associated Press

Wozniacki upset by Cibulkova in Sydney

SYDNEY (AP) — Top-ranked Caroline Wozniacki was upset by Slovakia's Dominika Cibulkova 6-3, 6-3 in her opening match at the Sydney International on Tuesday in another setback for her Australian Open preparations.

The defeat follows two straight-sets losses by Wozniacki to No. 2-ranked Vera Zvonareva and U.S. Open champion Kim Clijsters in exhibition events in Singapore and Hong Kong last week. Second-seeded Zvonareva lost to Italy's Flavia Pennetta 7-5, 7-5 and No. 4 Sam Stosur lost to Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 as the upsets continued.

Cibulkova, ranked 32nd, converted four of six break opportunities, while Wozniacki only broke her opponent once in the second-round match. Wozniacki had a bye in the first round.

"Definitely it's a bit tough to go from Hong Kong to Sydney and play really well here," Wozniacki said. "But I felt pretty good out there. Just wasn't my day. At the start of the new season, you always need to get into the match play."

Wozniacki, the first top-seeded woman to lose her opening match at the Sydney International since 2003, said she would head to Melbourne as soon as possible to finish finetuning for the Australian Open, which begins Monday.

"Last year I had the same start — so hopefully slow start, good finish," Wozniacki said. "You need to learn from the losses. I'm confident that for Melbourne I'll be okay."

Cibulkova moved into a quarterfinal against Russia's Alisa Kleybanova, who beat Spain's Maria Jose Martinez 6-2, 6-4.

"I think I beat No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, No. 5 and everybody, just not No. 1," Cibulkova said. "So I'm really happy about it."

"It gives me really a lot of confidence. But I just have to get used to this is my game and I can beat everybody in two sets. Today a little bit the rain actually a little bit helped me."

Third-seeded Clijsters needed just 69 minutes for a 6-1, 6-4 win over Czech qualifier Barbora Zahlavova Strycova in her second-round match, while No. 7 Victoria Azarenka of Belarus beat Israel's Shahar Peer 7-5, 6-3 and No. 8 Li Na of China beat Virginie Razzano of France 6-4, 1-6, 6-4.

In men's first-round matches, No. 7 Guillermo Garcia-Lopez of Spain had a 7-6 (5), 7-5 win over Australian qualifier Chris Guccione and Juan Ignacio Chela of Argentina beat Radek Stepanek 4-6, 6-0, 6-3. □



Finland's Tanja Poutiainen, left, and Germany's Maria Riesch celebrate on podium after winning an alpine ski, women's World Cup slalom in Flachau, Austria, Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2011. Poutiainen shared the first place with Riesch, France's Nastasia Noens placed third.
Associated Press

Riesch, Poutiainen share World Cup slalom win

ERIC WILLEMSSEN

Associated Press

FLACHAU, Austria (AP) — Germany's Maria Riesch and Tanja Poutiainen of Finland shared victory at a women's World Cup night slalom on Tuesday.

The two skiers both finished in a combined time of 1 minute, 42.52 seconds for the two runs.

Nastasia Noens of France was 0.52 back in third for her first career podium finish.

Olympic champion Riesch was third after the opening leg and trailed leader Poutiainen by 0.41 seconds. She put in a flawless final run to claim her seventh World Cup slalom victory in total but only the first since winning in Levi, Finland, in November 2009.

"I thought Tanja would be out of reach, this is just unbelievable," said Riesch, who had finished second in four slaloms this season. "Many times, things went wrong for me in the second run, so I am very glad now."

Riesch wasn't clean in the first run as her right ski went up in the air but the German avoided skiing out.

"I am just very happy that I made it to the finish," she said. "The course is really icy so you have to be wary throughout."

Riesch extended her lead in the overall standings over defending champion Lindsey Vonn to 196 points. The American went out in the first run.

The three-time defending champion straddled a gate and has failed to finish her first run in four straight races.

The course was set by U.S. women's slalom head coach Trevor Wagner, but Vonn never looked comfortable from the start and was already 0.80 behind Poutiainen's time when

she went out after 25 seconds.

"My slalom troubles continue, another disappointing slalom race for me," Vonn wrote on her Facebook page. "I am not exactly thrilled right now, but I have been training really well and the bad luck has to turn around eventually, I hope."

Poutiainen, who earned her 11th World Cup victory, won her sixth career slalom — the first since placing first in Zagreb, Croatia in February 2008.

"I've been skiing really well all season but just came short every time," Poutiainen said. "I am over the moon it all worked out today and I hope I can build on this for the rest of the season."

Riesch also went top of the slalom discipline standings as Austria's Marlies Schild skied out in her second run and failed to score points.

Pre-race favorite Schild, victorious here last year, had won four of the previous five slalom races this season but found herself 1.40 behind after a string of mistakes in the first run.

"I had many errors as the back of my skis slid away several times," she said.

Schild went out attacking in her second run but seemed to approach some gates too straight and crashed out before the first intermediate time.

Fellow Austrian and former overall champion Nicole Hosp and 2007 world champion Sarka Zahrobska of the Czech Republic both skied out after missing a gate in the opening run.

Julia Mancuso finished 4.12 seconds off the leading time in 44th which left Sarah Schleper the only American to qualify for the second run, but she crashed out there.

The women's World Cup travels to Maribor for a GS and slalom race this weekend. □

Don't drink & DRIVE

Verizon big winner from having iPhone? Not so fast

NEW YORK — Verizon Wireless would seem to be a big winner now that it will start selling the iPhone and break Apple Inc.'s monogamous relationship with AT&T Inc. in the U.S.

But for several reasons, the iPhone's arrival to Verizon is poorly timed, and Verizon's gains won't be as clear-cut as one might think.

There's no doubt a Verizon iPhone will attract millions of buyers, and it will give the country's largest wireless carrier a chance to catch up with AT&T in attracting high-paying smart-phone customers.

Since the iPhone's debut in 2007, AT&T has been its exclusive distributor in the U.S. Many people held off on getting one because they already had service with a carrier they liked or were apprehensive about congestion on AT&T's network, particularly in New York and San Francisco.

On Tuesday, Verizon announced a deal with Apple to start selling iPhones on Feb. 10. Prices for the phones will be about the same as with

AT&T.

The iPhone is big business for AT&T: The carrier activated 11.1 million iPhones in the first nine months of 2010. Analysts now estimate Verizon will sell 5 million to 13 million iPhones this year, some coming from what AT&T would have sold. Many believe Verizon could sell more iPhones in the U.S. than AT&T this year, given pent-up demand from customers not wanting to switch to AT&T.

Yet several factors may give prospective Verizon iPhone buyers pause.

The first Verizon iPhone will only work on the older, "3G" network. That network has wide coverage, excellent reliability and less congestion than AT&T's, but data speeds are much slower than new "4G" networks both AT&T and Verizon are building. You also can't talk and surf at the same time with Verizon 3G phones.

Also, Apple has been launching a new iPhone model every summer. Presumably, an iPhone 5 is coming this year. But Apple won't say whether Verizon would get it. Verizon

may have to wait until next January, if it's on the same one-year upgrade cycle that AT&T has been on. That would give AT&T a head start. Most importantly, cell phone companies do their best to tie subscribers up with contracts. AT&T executives last year stressed to investors that most of their iPhone users are on family and employer plans more difficult for an individual to switch from. "The consensus is that AT&T is reasonably well-prepared for Verizon's iPhone onslaught for now," said Sanford Bernstein analyst Craig Moffett.

For this reason, John Hodulik at UBS expects that 77 percent of his estimated 13 million Verizon iPhones this year will go to current Verizon subscribers, rather than new ones. That's a concern because Verizon has to subsidize the cost of each iPhone, hoping to make it up through service fees over time.

Verizon will essentially be paying heavily to upgrade its own subscribers. Hodulik figures that even with the iPhone's boost to service revenue, iPhone subsidies



will reduce Verizon earnings this year by a net 15 cents per share, or about \$425 million. Still, analysts don't expect the Verizon iPhone to affect stock prices much, reasoning that investors have already factored in the news.

Verizon Wireless is a joint venture of Verizon Communications Inc. of New York and Vodafone Group PLC of Britain. Since mid-July, Verizon Communications' stock has gained 40 percent, while AT&T's has gained 20 percent.

Analyst vary widely in their estimates of how many AT&T iPhone users will jump ship: Christopher King of Stifel Nicolaus thinks as many as 6 million will flee to Verizon

over two years, while James Ratcliffe at Barclay's expects just 1 million this year.

Hodulik says AT&T will actually benefit in the short term from paying fewer subsidies, saving about 10 cents per share, or about \$590 million, this year.

The No. 3 and No. 4 carriers in the U.S., Sprint Nextel Corp. and T-Mobile USA, may have as much to lose from a Verizon iPhone than AT&T. They won't have iPhones of their own and will face the added competition from Verizon's model. Sprint recently started reversing a multi-year subscriber loss, but its recovery is still tentative, and T-Mobile's subscriber figures are stagnating. □



Mobile operators were out in full force at the International Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas last week, promoting their improved data networks and unveiling new devices. But with their marketing efforts in overdrive, the operators may confuse rather than attract users.

AT&T, for example, started calling its current upgraded HSPA+ network 4G instead of 3G. It's not the fastest major network in the country -- that's Verizon's LTE, based on advertised speeds -- but AT&T

says it has a better transition path to its next-generation network.

"Today, we're seeing 4G on HSPA+ in markets with enhanced backhaul, with speeds up to 6Mbps," said Ralph de la Vega, AT&T Mobility's president and CEO, during his company's developers' summit held at CES.

"We have the best transition path to 4G and we're the only U.S. company with this plan," de la Vega said.

He is arguing that AT&T's

4G War of Words Is on

plan is better than Verizon's because once AT&T starts launching LTE, users will be able to fall back onto the HSPA+ network, which can deliver as fast as 6 Mbps download speeds. At CES, AT&T said it will advance its timeline for rolling out LTE, with launches starting in the middle of this year.

Verizon, however, is going straight from its existing 3G network to LTE, without an interim step like HSPA+. That means users who aren't in the LTE coverage areas will drop down to Verizon's slower 3G EV-DO Rev. A (Evolution-Data Optimized) network, which offers download speeds of around 600 kbps to 1.4 Mbps.

Still, even if Verizon doesn't have AT&T's "4G" HSPA+, it has a head start on the pack with the faster LTE. Verizon launched LTE in 38 markets in December and last week

said it is speeding up its upgrade path so that another 140 markets will come online this year. Currently, Verizon's LTE network covers 100 million people, and in 18 months it will reach 200 million people, Tony Melone, chief technology officer for Verizon, said at CES. He said the network should offer 5 Mbps to 12 Mbps download speeds.

Further confusing matters, T-Mobile last week also announced new plans for its own "4G" HSPA+ network, saying that it will double the speed so that it's capable of delivering an astounding 42 Mbps. That, however, would be the download rate if just one person were connected at a time to a cell tower. Operators typically try to offer users a more realistic approximation of the speed they'll get in a real-life situation when sharing the network with other

people.

To make the situation even more complicated, the International Telecommunication Union has flip-flopped on what technologies should officially get the 4G moniker. In November, the ITU's Radiocommunication Sector said the only technologies that qualify as 4G will be a future version of LTE, called LTE-Advanced, and the next generation of WiMax, known as WirelessMAN-Advanced. However, in early December it seemed to relent from that stance.

Buried in a press release, it said that LTE and WiMax may be called 4G since they offer improved performance over 3G.

Consumers may also be confused because the data rates they get ultimately will depend on whether they have a device that works on the fastest networks. □

“The King’s Speech” tops UK box office



LONDON – “The King’s Speech” already widely tipped as an Oscar contender topped the British box office over the weekend, according to figures from Screen International on Tuesday.

The story of how the present queen’s father George VI fought to overcome a lifelong speech impediment, starring Colin Firth and Helena Bonham-Carter, took 3.53 million pounds (\$5.50 million) on its debut.

It was a good result for a British film, beating the opening take of 2009 UK hit “Slumdog Millionaire” which grossed 1.8 million pounds on its debut.

“Slumdog” director Danny Boyle’s latest film “127 Hours” was new in second place with a trapped mountaineer resorting to desperate measures to free himself. The film took 2.16 million pounds.

Third was the Christmas chart-topper “Little Fockers,”

which was down one place, while last week’s number one, the 3D update of Jonathan Swift’s 18th century satire “Gulliver’s Travels,” slipped three to fourth.

Russell Crowe and Elizabeth Banks came in at five with prison-break thriller “The Next Three Days.”

“Love and Other Drugs,” with Jake Gyllenhaal and Anne Hathaway finding romance in the world of pharmaceutical sales, fell three to sixth, just above “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1” which was unchanged in seventh spot.

Disney’s “Tron Legacy” fell two to eight while “The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader” was down at nine from five.

Supernatural thriller “Season of the Witch,” with Nicolas Cage and Ron Perlman made its debut at No. 10. □

Paul Giamatti thrives in depicting life’s disorder

NEW YORK – In characters like the uncommonly candid Harvey Pekar of “American Splendor,” the frank, impudent John Adams of the HBO miniseries, and, now, the self-destructive Barney Parnofsky of “Barney’s Version,” Paul Giamatti has brought very human, messy lives to movie screens more accustomed to simpler, neater portraits.

Himself more worn and shaggy than the average movie actor, Giamatti’s tousled appearance works in tandem with his warts-and-all performances. Think of his wine-enthusiast Miles in “Sideways,” a man of refined taste who nevertheless erupts by pouring a vat of wine over his head.

“Maybe I have a propensity to want to mess things up,” Giamatti granted in a recent interview over coffee at a restaurant in his New York neighborhood of Brooklyn Heights, where he lives with wife Elizabeth and son Samuel. “I certainly would err on the side of being more interested in things being messy and messy characters or situations.”

“Barney’s Version,” Richard J. Lewis’ adaptation of



Mordecai Richler’s beloved-in-Canada novel, gives Giamatti wide berth to revel in imperfection in the title role as well as a nomination for best actor in a musical or comedy at Sunday’s Golden Globes.

Barney is a boozy, ego-less, cigar-smoking TV producer (he cares little for his schlocky product, naming his Montreal production company Totally Unnecessary Productions), who thinks enough of decorum that he flagrantly pursues his third wife at the wedding to his second.

Much of the joy of the film which is divided into three parts, one for each wife (Rachelle Lefevre, Minnie Driver, Rosamund Pike) is seeing Giamatti play Barney across time (he ages some 30 years in the film), sickness, folly and love.

It’s another lead performance

for the 43-year-old actor, who, after years of smaller character roles, has proven that his acclaimed performances in “American Splendor” and “Sideways” weren’t leading-man aberrations, after all, but the start of a busy decade that would also include an Oscar nomination for “Cinderella Man,” an Emmy for “John Adams” and notable films including “The Illusionist,” “Duplicity,” “The Last Station” and “Cold Souls.”

“I have no idea how I’ve pulled it off,” laughs Giamatti. “The luckiest thing that I’ve had happen to me is that, yeah, I’ve gotten to play lead roles in things, but the supporting stuff that I’ve been offered and gotten the opportunity to do has been so interesting. Lots of times, it’s more interesting than the lead roles I get offered.” □



Official: Jackson healthy, but doc’s care lacking

LOS ANGELES – A coroner’s official says Michael Jackson was mostly healthy, but the doctor charged in his death provided substandard care.

Dr. Christopher Rogers testified Tuesday at a preliminary hearing after which a judge will decide if there is enough evidence for Dr. Conrad Murray to stand trial for involuntary manslaughter.

Rogers says Murray was improperly using the powerful anesthetic propofol to treat the musician for insomnia. He also says Murray was wrong to leave Jackson’s side while he was under anesthesia.

Rogers says he does not believe the singer injected himself with propofol, which Murray’s defense attorneys have suggested could have occurred.

However, the forensic pathologist says Jackson may have swallowed some of the drug based on the amount found in his stomach.

Murray has pleaded not guilty.

For nearly three hours, the doctor charged in Michael Jackson’s death told police about his final hours with the superstar who was so desperate for sleep that he was getting anesthetic injections in his bedroom six nights a week.

Dr. Conrad Murray’s interview two days after Jackson’s death in June 2009 led police back to the singer’s mansion, where they ultimately found 12 vials of propofol. It was a small fraction of the 255 vials a Las Vegas pharmacist said he shipped Murray in the nearly three months before Jackson’s death.

The interview also provided detectives with a roadmap of the drugs ultimately found throughout Jackson’s system, including the anesthetic propofol and the sedatives lorazepam and midazolam.

On Monday, the homicide detective who interviewed Murray described the doctor’s retelling of his efforts to get Jackson to fall asleep and to revive him when he stopped breathing.

Detective Orlando Martinez was the 20th witness prosecutors called during Murray’s preliminary hearing, which will end with a judge ruling whether there is enough evidence for the doctor to stand trial on an involuntary manslaughter charge. Although prosecutors have not indicated when they will conclude their case, most major witnesses have already testified.

The Houston-based cardiologist has pleaded not guilty and his attorneys have said he didn’t give Jackson anything that should have killed him. □



Cash Is King? Since When?

Headlines can be so dramatic sometimes. "Cash the King Is Dead," announced an article by investment manager James Malin. He pointed out that while many used to think of cash as a safe haven, extremely low interest rates have shattered that illusion. But then again, when has cash ever been a safe haven?

As Malin noted, a pile of cash won't lose most of its value overnight, as a stock investment can. But those greenbacks won't exactly grow for you, either. Pernicious, persistent inflation will eat away at their value, as it will for any investment. Remember, the stock market's oft-quoted, long-term annual return of roughly 10% doesn't factor in the 3% per year that inflation generally devours.

A lack of interest

While you can gradually grow a hefty nest egg at 7% annually, a savings account alone won't provide you with financial security. Even if you can find an account that'll pay you 1% in today's tough economic environment, a 3% inflation rate means that your purchasing power will still shrink by 2% over the year. The economy and interest rates cycle through ups and downs over the years; there are times when cash pays more, and interest rates are high. In 1981, you could buy a six-month CD with an annual interest rate topping 15%!

But through most economic environments, inflation will keep corroding your returns. That's why you need admittedly riskier investments that provide bigger potential payouts.

If they succeed, carefully chosen stock investments can help your money far outpace inflation.

Cash's role

We're not saying you should

give up on greenbacks entirely. You'll always need a certain amount of cash on hand or readily available for daily expenses and emergencies. And if you don't have enough cash available, you may end up having to sell your long-term investments to get it. If those investments happen to be slumping at the time you sell, you could suffer significant losses all for lack



of sufficient cash on hand. have been. It's simply one Cash is not king now, but necessary tool in a larger then again, it never should financial arsenal. □

HolidaysurpriseshelpSearsandTiffany



CHICAGO – The holiday shopping season still delivered a few surprises on Tuesday, both naughty and nice, showing that the U.S. economic recovery is not strong enough to lift all retailers. Talbots Inc (TLB.N) said its loss in its fiscal fourth quarter would be deeper than its previous worst-case forecast, as it had to slash prices in the last two weeks of December into January because women were avoiding its clothes.

Sears Holdings Corp (SHLD.O), meanwhile, forecast a fourth-quarter profit above Wall Street expectations, as sales of toys, home and sporting goods helped limit declines in overall comparable store sales fueled by weakness in appliances and clothing.

High-end jewelers fared better, with Tiffany & Co (TIF.N) saying sales rose 11 percent in November and December and raising its full-year forecast. Signet (SIG.N) saw strength at its higher-end Jared chain.

Tiffany and Signet shares were down slightly, while Sears'

shares were up more than 9 percent. Talbots plunged 17 percent, while the Standard & Poor's retail index was up 0.3 percent.

The sales results and forecasts were the latest evidence that only some retailers are positioned to grow in an economy that is struggling to create jobs. Consumer spending accounts for about 70 percent of the U.S. economy.

"Compelling products sold," Wall Street Strategies analyst Brian Sozzi said, noting that Tiffany had some interesting items in stock during the holidays.

But "Talbots is selling, at this point, commodity women's clothes," Sozzi said.

READY TO STOP SHOPPING

Last week, retailers posted December sales that fell short of analyst expectations that had risen after a strong start to the holiday shopping season. Still, sales at stores open at least one year saw their best performance since the start of the recession. Many analysts also expect consumers to now stop spending and save up again to shop in the spring. U.S. chain store sales fell 3.2 percent in the weekend that ended January 8, compared with an increase of 0.4 percent in the prior week, according to the International Council of Shopping Centers and Goldman Sachs. □

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Cleanliness is next to

As newlyweds, Phyllis and I moved into a new apartment without the usual domestic objects. Neighbors, having purchased a new vacuum cleaner, donated their aged, "it does not work very well anymore" vacuum cleaner. Three points motivated me to accept this gift. One, wanting to get off on the right foot, I did not want to seem ungracious to new neighbors. Two, we did not have a vacuum, so one, even "working well anymore" was better than doing it the "elbow grease" way. And finally, as my buddy Bob reminds me, I hate throwing anything away; wanting instead to repair everything. I grew up in a car dealership; where to repair is noble.

Soon, the aged vacuum cleaner lay in pieces in the corner of our sparsely furnished living room. Slowly, lint, hair and dust were removed from electrical contacts, hearing shafts, and rotors. A family tradition was born. If it doesn't work, clean it. Within days we had a vacuum cleaner that had regained its youthful vigor.

Amazing how everything works better when cleaned. I am not even saying repaired, just cleaned! The same can be said about your body. We clean our clothes, our skin, our houses, our cars, our floors, but what about our insides? We can clean our large intestines with a method called colon hydrotherapy. Since we introduced this procedure in Aruba at Viana Natural Healing Center we have seen small miracles take place.

Historically, colon hydrotherapy was a popular form of treatment among physicians in the 1930's and 40's and has been experiencing reappearance among natural physicians. "Colon lavage"

was first recorded 1500 B.C., in the Ebers Papyrus, which dealt with ancient medical practices. These enemas were described as the infusion of aqueous substances into the large intestine through the anus. Hippocrates, the "father" of allopathic medicine in the fourth and fifth Century B.C. recorded using enemas as a therapy for the reduction of fevers. In the second Century A.D., Galen, one of my heroes, also recognized and was an advocate of the use of enemas while strongly criticizing his contemporaries for their ignorance, greed, and superficial knowledge of the art of medicine. Also, Pare, the French surgeon, born in Laval, whose great practical skills and humaneness distinguished him from his contemporaries, in 1600 A.D., offered the first distinction between colon irrigation and the popular enema therapy of that age. We are talking about all the true medical greats here.

So what is it? Colon hydrotherapy is an extended and more complete form of an enema. The treatment is designed to cleanse above the rectum to the cecum. The cecum is the first part of the large intestine, located on the lower right side of the abdomen and having a worm-shaped tube branching off called the appendix. Colon hydrotherapy involves the gentle infusion of warm filtered water into the rectum by the therapist or Natural Physician., using no chemicals or drugs. It is the natural solution to conditions, which interfere with the normal functions of the colon. The individual lies on his back, and water is mechanically infused into and out of the intestine without any assistance on the part of the patient. The out

flowing water removes excess gas, mucus, infectious material and feces.

So why should a person consider colonics? An unclean, weak and poorly functioning colon is a breeding ground for disease, sickness and death. Natural Physicians will tell you that "old age starts in the colon". Serious health problems can develop if the colon is not properly cared for, and based on health statistics; colon health care in developed countries has been woefully neglected.

In the United States alone, over 400 million dollars is spent annually on laxatives. Laxatives act as chemical irritants and stimulate the muscular walls of the colon to abnormally contract to expel the irritating substances. It is very easy to become dependent upon these drugs. The oral route of administration is the least optimal method of evacuation of the large intestine. Very important digestive processes occurring higher up in the alimentary tract (stomach and small intestine) are interfered with. Most laxatives dehydrate or force the body to lose important water. Colon hydrotherapy alternately fills and empties the colon and improves the hydration status of the patient. A very good thing, since most people's bodies are severely lacking water. Additional health statistics tell us that this year an estimated 130,000 new cases of colon and rectal cancer will be diagnosed in the United States, making it the fourth most common form of cancer among Americans.

Good colon health is as much a function of the quality of food, based on our blood type, we eat, as it is our elimination status. The

Standard American/ Aruban Diet (SAD) comprised of refined, processed foods, high in saturated fats, sugar, flour, preservatives and low in fiber, inevitably causes problems for the colon. Over time, the colon loses the ability to process vital nutrients, absorb water and to eliminate fecal matter from the body, a condition commonly known as "constipation", making bowel movements infrequent, and difficult.

With constipation comes toxicity. Toxins present in the unhealthy colon can be transported into the circulatory system and soon the body may be unable to properly metabolize food and fat, or to provide vital energy for living! Colon toxicity can be the underlying cause of many commonly reported health problems and may indicate the need for colon hydrotherapy. Symptoms include: Constipation, Backaches, Diarrhea, Skin Problems, Difficult Weight Loss, Insomnia, Hypertension, Headaches, Arthritis, Bad Breath/Halitosis, Asthma, Allergies and this list could go on.

Intestinal cleansing is a therapeutic procedure, which addresses the cause or source of many of your medical problem. Other measures, especially allopathic drugs, which treat only the symptoms, will provide only temporary relief. Colon hydrotherapy could clean and dilute the toxin load in the large intestine, resulting in a reduced burden on the liver, allowing the eliminative organs to function optimally. Colon hydrotherapy could also prevent stagnation and minimize the exposure of carcinogenic agents to the colon wall. The above combined effect may serve to



rejuvenate the immunological system and truly be a pathway to vibrant health!

Get the point! Your colon, together with your lungs, skin and kidneys, are designed to keep you healthy by accomplish the essential task of the elimination of toxins in the intestines, blood and lymph systems. You know the saying says "Cleanliness is next to Godliness". Now you know why.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

READ: 101 Great Ways to Improve YOUR HEALTH, 101 Expert Health tips, Inc. a chapter by "Aruba's Barefoot Doctor." Available at Viana Center, Hotel Gift Shops & Bookstores - PRESCRIPTIONS FROM PARADISE, NEW release date: May 2011!☐

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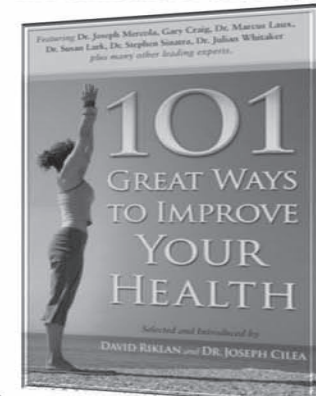
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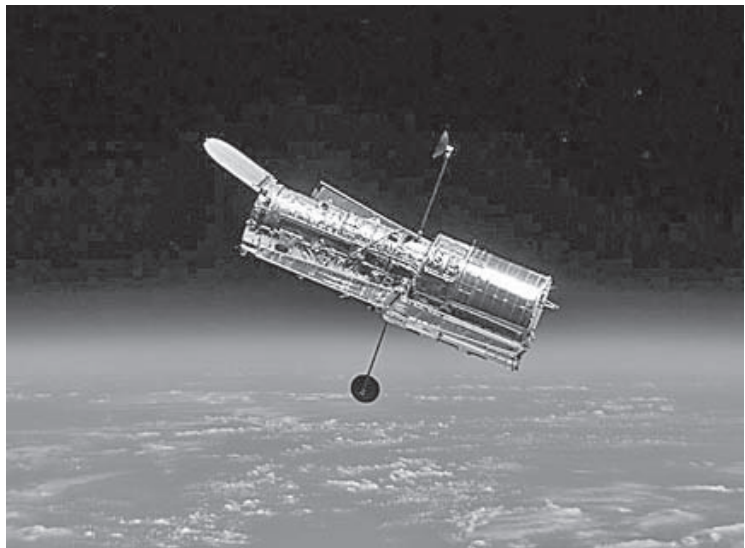
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Twinkle, Twinkle, Twinkle: Triplet Stars Discovered



NASA's Kepler spacecraft, an observatory originally designed to hunt for alien planets, has stumbled upon an intriguing discovery: a set of triplet stars circling a massive stellar parent.

The new system contains three stars in orbit around each other that sometimes serendipitously align from the vantage point of Kepler, scientists said.

“More or less the entire system is edge-on from the perspective of Kepler,” the study’s lead scientist, Joshua Carter of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, Mass., said in a statement. “It’s the first of its kind in that it’s eclipsing amongst all three of the members.”

That type of alignment is what Kepler looks for from extrasolar planets. It detects the presence of a planet from the slight dimming of a star as the planet passes in front of it. The finding comes on the heels of the announcement Monday (Jan. 10) that Kepler had discovered the smallest alien planet yet. Both discoveries were announced at the 217th meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Seattle.

Triplet stars in deep space
The star triplets, which scientists are calling KOI-126 (A, B, C), was originally identified as a possible planetary candidate, but it soon became clear that it was a grouping of stars.

The discovery could help

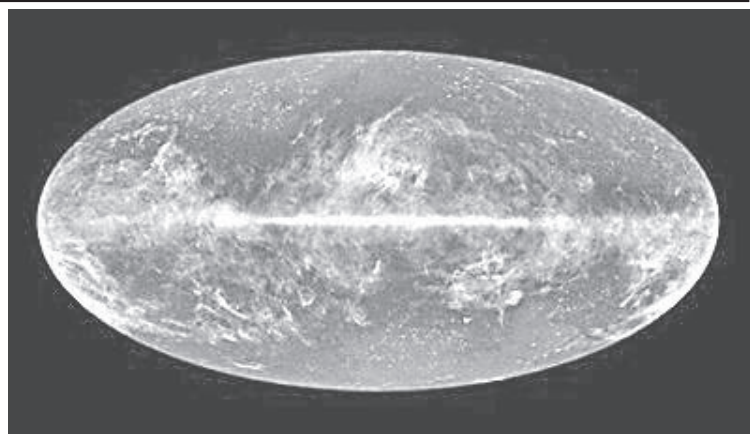
scientists understand what makes little stars tick, as two of the triplets are quite small by stellar standards, with about 0.2 percent the mass of the sun.

“They probe a regime in stellar mass that is not very well sampled by other data,” Carter told SPACE.com, explaining that most stars this small are too dim to be seen from Earth unless they are nearby. Consequently, stars like this are not well understood.

For example, stellar theory suggests that lightweight stars should have somewhat smaller radii than they seem to, according to the few examples astronomers have discovered. That may be a reflection of a flawed theory, or simply a sampling bias that causes the few such stars we've happened to find to be unrepresentative of the general cosmic population, Carter said.

The facts of triple stars
Triple star systems, though,
are not actually a celestial
rarity.

"They're more common than you may think," Carter said. And while the stars in KOI-126 are rather tightly spaced, other roomier triple star systems could host planets of their own, he said. (When stars keep very close quarters, planets could get absorbed into the stars, or kicked out of the system entirely.) The triple sunsets visible on such a planet could be stunning. Carter presented the results today (Jan. 11) at the 217th meeting of the American Astronomical Society in Seattle, and the find is described in the Jan 14 issue of the journal *Science*. □



Planck telescope probes 'cosmic treasure trove'

PARIS — Astronomers exulted on Tuesday at the first results from Europe's billion-dollar Planck space telescope, designed to probe the microwave secrets of the "Big Bang" 14 billion years ago.

Launched in May 2009, Planck has carried out three complete scans of the Universe, yielding a catalogue of 15,000 new celestial objects, including 30 galaxy clusters, they reported at a conference in Paris.

The data is a “treasure trove” that will be exploited for years to come, said Jan Tauber, a project scientist at the European Space Agency (ESA).

“For the Planck community, this is a big day,” he said. “It’s hard for us to transmit the excitement that we feel.”

Planck, deployed in orbit 1.5 million kilometres (937,000 miles) from Earth, is chiefly designed to pick up tiny variations in temperature in microwave energy that was released after the Big Bang that created the Universe.

The probe into this so-called Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) is still under way, and the outcome will probably be published in 2013.

One of the tasks that the telescope has overcome, though, is to remove a “fog” of microwave emissions -- a diffuse glow that for decades has distorted the view of dusty regions of deep space.

Data collected by Planck confirm the theory that the “fog” comes from nano-scale grains that are set spinning at several tens of billions of times a second, by collision either with fast-moving atoms or packets of ultraviolet light.

Scientists should now be able to filter out this signal, enabling them to concentrate on genuine CMB traces in Planck's rich reams of data.

The Paris conference was briefed on 25 papers, detailing the data finds from Planck. They have been submitted to a specialist journal, *Astronomy and Astrophysics*, for publication.

“These new results are all vital pieces of a jigsaw that could give us a full picture of the evolution of both our own cosmic backyard – the Milky Way galaxy that we live in – as well as the early history of the whole Universe,” said David Parker, director of space science at the UK Space Agency.

Planck's big tool is a 1.5-metre (4.8-feet) -long telescope that focuses radiation onto two array of detectors which are cooled to nearly absolute zero.

The telescope had a mission duration of 15 months, but its operations have already been extended by two years. □

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Papa "anima" a Cuba profundizar diálogo con Iglesia

CIUDAD DEL VATICANO (Reuters) - El papa Benedicto XVI animó el lunes al Gobierno comunista de Cuba a profundizar el diálogo emprendido en el 2010 con la Iglesia Católica, que condujo a la excarcelación de casi medio centenar de disidentes presos.

Las liberaciones de disidentes fueron aplaudidas por la comunidad internacional y quitaron presión sobre las autoridades cubanas, criticadas el año pasado tras la muerte de un preso en huelga de hambre.

También elevaron el perfil de la Iglesia Católica, que emergió como el principal interlocutor del Gobierno del presidente Raúl Castro.

"Quisiera dirigir una palabra de ánimo a las autoridades de Cuba (...) para que el diálogo que felizmente se ha instaurado con la Iglesia se refuerce y amplíe todavía más", dijo Benedicto XVI

durante una audiencia con diplomáticos con motivo del año nuevo.

Castro prometió en mayo del 2010 al arzobispo de La Habana, cardenal Jaime Ortega, liberar a 52 disidentes presos desde el 2003.

Cuarenta y uno fueron excarcelados gradualmente, la mayoría a condición de marcharse al exilio en España. Pero 11 disidentes del grupo que se han negado a abandonar Cuba permanecen tras las rejas.

El cardenal Ortega ha dicho que existe "la promesa clara y formal del Gobierno cubano" de excarcelar a todos los presos políticos y ha sugerido que algunos de los 11 todavía presos estarían dispuestos a marcharse a Estados Unidos.

Bertha Soler, la esposa de uno de los presos, dijo que Ortega les pidió que tuvieran fe pero no aclaró cuándo serían liberados sus familiares.

"El momento de la liberación



El papa Benedicto XVI durante una audiencia con diplomáticos en el Vaticano, ene 10 2011. El papa Benedicto XVI animó el lunes al Gobierno comunista de Cuba a profundizar el diálogo emprendido en el 2010 con la Iglesia Católica, que condujo a la excarcelación de casi medio centenar de disidentes presos. REUTERS/Alessia Pierdomenico

no depende del cardenal. Eso es un asunto del Estado", dijo a Reuters la líder del grupo de familiares de presos políticos

Damas de Blanco. Además de los disidentes, más de una decena de presos condenados por delitos como

piratería o terrorismo fueron excarcelados en el marco del acuerdo con la Iglesia y se marcharon a España. □

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